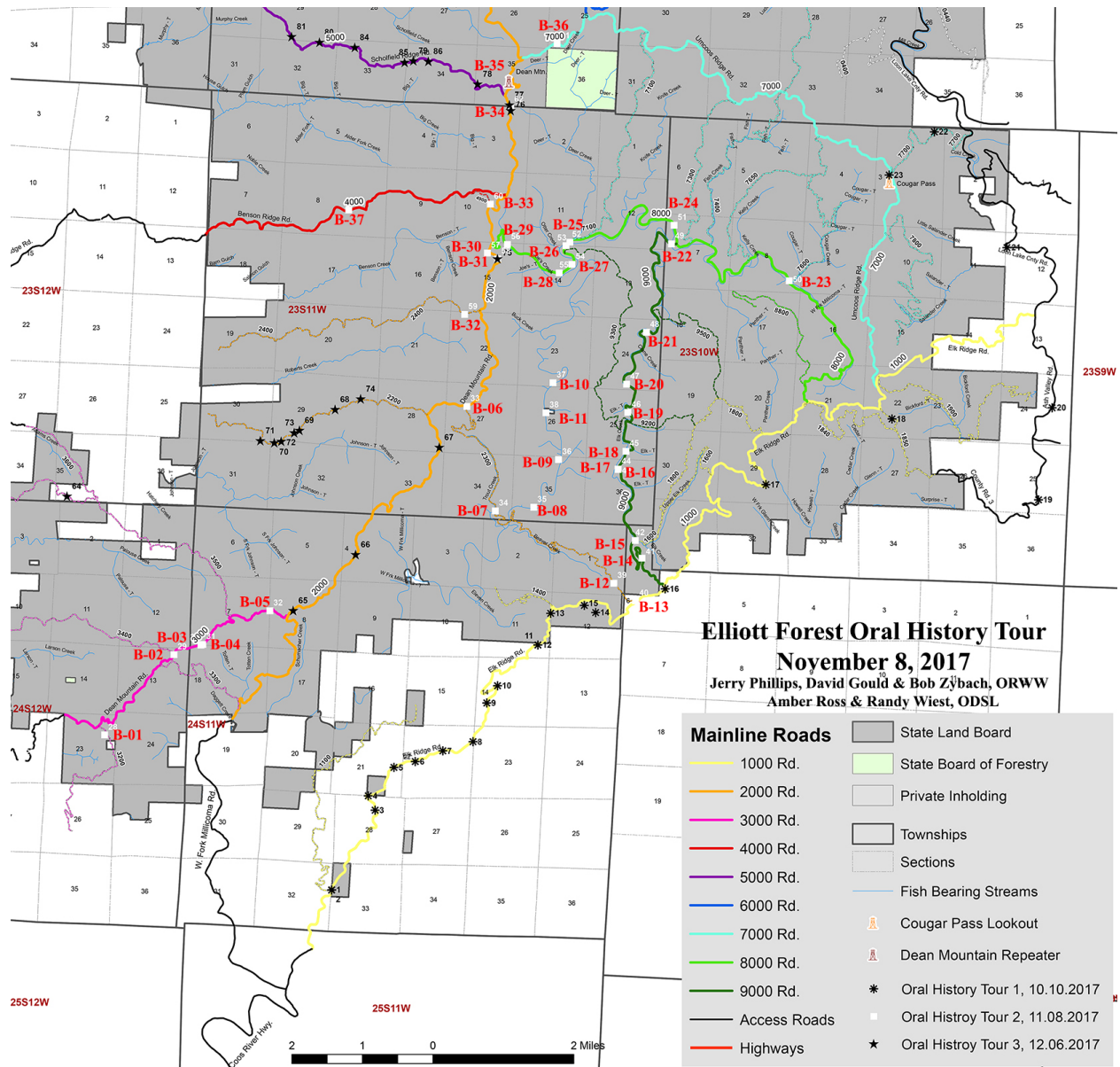


Interview #3. November 8, 2017: Larson Slough to Elkhorn Ranch & Gould's Lake

Map	Tape	Minute	Page (Photos)
Part 1. The Big Burn to Bear Wallow (47:38)			
Haynes 5-A.	0:04	The Big Burn to Bert's Cabin Photos	1 (0)
Larson 5-A.	8:42	Larson Ridge to Sullivan Ridge (1)	6 (0)
#B-01 5-A.	22:52	Bear Wallow Homestead & Plantation	14 (5)
Part 2. Burnt Ridge to Trout Creek Canyon (47:30)			
#B-03 5-B.	0:04	Burnt Ridge to Trail Butte (1)	26 (0)
#B-05 5-B.	13:40	Trail Butte & Flag Peak to Stull Falls	33 (0)
#B-06 5-B.	34:16	Cedar Cabin & Trout Creek Canyon	44 (0)
Part 3. Jacobson Fishing Camp & Elkhorn Ranch (47:43)			
#B-07 6-A.	0:08	West Fork Old-Growth Alder	51 (0)
#B-08 6-A.	5:32	Bob Jacobson Fishing Camp	54 (6)
#B-11 6-A.	14:36	Potato Patch & Elkhorn Ranch	59 (14)
Part 4. Elkhorn Lunch Break to Gould's Lake (47:29)			
#B-10 6-B.	2:33	Elkhorn Ranch Lunch Break	78 (0)
#B-12 6-B.	14:53	CCC Fire Patrol Trail to Beaver Creek Old-Growth	83 (0)
#B-13 6-B.	34:06	Big Saddle (2) to Gould's Lake	94 (8)
Missing 45-Minute Segment: Gould's Lake to Old Maid's Cabin (0:00)			
#B-19 7-A.	0:00	Trail to Loon Lake	00 (0)
#B-20 7-A.	0:00	Baltimore "Balty/Baldy" Crane House	00 (0)
#B-21 7-A.	0:00	Clarence Gould Cabin	00 (0)
#B-22 7-A.	0:00	Elk Cabin	00 (0)
Part 5. Old Maid's Cabin to Roberts Ridge (47:27)			
#B-23 7-B.	0:39	Old Maid's Cabin, Spawning Gravel & Old-Growth	102 (7)
#B-25 7-B.	26:14	Pheasant Cabin to Joe's Lake	117 (0)
#B-30 7-B.	36:16	Old-Growth Alder to Roberts Ridge	124 (3)
Part 6. Divide Spring (1), Dean Mountain & CCC Mud Flat Side Camp (47:20)			
#B-32 7-C.	0:08	Roberts Ridge Myrtle Grove to Divide Spring	132 (0)
#B-35 7-C.	16:46	CCC Road to "Dean's Mountain"	140 (4)
#B-36 7-C.	29:58	Umpcoos Road to Mud Flat Side Camp	146 (7)
Part 7. Strawberry Creek, Big Creek Riparian Zone & Lakeside (39:31)			
#B-33 8-A.	0:38	Divide Spring (2) to Strawberry Creek Questions	154 (0)
#B-32 8-A.	9:30	Big Creek Riparian Zone & Judge Shopping	158 (0)
Lakeside 8-A.	32:27	Lakeside CCC Bridge & Airport	166 (0)
<u>Appendix. November 6, 2017 Oral History Tour: Discussion Outline & Maps (4 pp.)</u>			



Map of November 8, 2017 Elliott State Forest Tour Route.

Tape 5-A. Interview with Jerry Phillips and David Gould by Bob Zybach, with Amber Ross and Randy Wiest while touring the Elliott State Forest on November 8, 2017.

Part 1. The Big Burn to Bear Wallow (47:38}

Haynes Inlet. 0:04 The Big Burn to Bert's Cabin Photos. No Photos.

David Gould: They [Larson family] were here when the 1868 fire was in here. Then built this barn from the timber on what was left over later. They cleaned all this bottom up. Used to be skunk cabbage and willows and stuff. Put hogs out there to eat the stuff [and then channeled the drainage].

David Gould: But I have a recording taken by [Dennis] Signalness and some of the [John and Maralee] Brelage boys -- and the Brelages bought the ranch from [Herman] Larson's. So they took the recording and said the fire of 1868 and talked about it and said it started in Scottsburg [meant Scholfield Creek], which I don't know if that's true.

Jerry Phillips: I think it's [Scottsburg] true. That's the facts.

David Gould: Yeah. Starting in Scottsburg. Or Scholfield Creek, I think.

Bob Zybach: Yeah, that was the one we argued about.

David Gould: Scholfield Creek. Yeah.

Bob Zybach: Jerry says Scottsburg, you say Loon Lake.

Jerry Phillips: Well, it depends on which fire you are talking about.

David Gould: Anyway.

Bob Zybach: Well, he's saying the 1868 fire started on Scholfield Creek. There's no way.

Jerry Phillips: Nope, there isn't.

Bob Zybach: It might have come down from Scholfield Creek before it hit the Lar-

[silence from 01:10 until 01:44]

David Gould: . . . [Bert Gould] survey made a record that say that size of 6 inch trees, and talked about the fire and everything on that survey. My aunt [Aileen Rickard, *The Goulds of Elkhorn*, 1982] never knew when the fire was. To her it could have been 1860 or 1886.

Bob Zybach: They just called it the Big Burn.

David Gould: Big Burn, yeah.

Bob Zybach: Now one thing about the Larson's, they said this whole [stream bottom] area up above the house was all skunk cabbage. So, that was a major native food. That would have been people in here and where the terraces are back there. Do you know anything about artifacts or things of that nature?

David Gould: I don't. They talked about it some, and they were just mainly making a living. Started out that way.

Bob Zybach: And that was on the terraces?

David Gould: Yeah, and on down from there.

Amber Ross: Hey Randy,

Randy Wiest: Yeah.

Amber Ross: You think we could pull the tire [loose, rattling tire in pickup bed] off?

Randy Wiest: Yeah, I was just thinking the same thing. Place to pull over and --

Amber Ross: Maybe that left shoulder.

Bob Zybach: David one thing we did last time was at the beginning of the tape said the date. What's the date? November 8th. And identified everybody, all four of us have been identified, and then OK'd using this, putting it on the internet or transcribing it or using it for education and research. So I'm assuming that's okay with you as well.

David Gould: Yeah.

Bob Zybach: Okay, well, we got it on tape now.

David Gould: It's okay.

Bob Zybach: Jerry all those recordings from last time came out real well.

Jerry Phillips: Oh, good.

Bob Zybach: And the photographs came out pretty darn good too.

Jerry Phillips: Glad to hear it.

Bob Zybach: So we've got a real good record.

David Gould: When the people first come up in there they had to get cross the bay in a boat, they didn't have any roads in here. And the Indian canoes was a little bit of use.

Bob Zybach: Well that's what I was thinking if the bay was back there where those terraces were, with people traveling around in canoes, those would be ideal --

David Gould: That would have been a long time ago.

Bob Zybach: Yep.

David Gould: Now they're filling in.

Bob Zybach: Yep.

David Gould: See the base level would have been about 50 feet below the field here, this is all filled in. Alluvial.

Bob Zybach: From how long ago?

David Gould: Well, several thousand years, a million years, whatever.

Bob Zybach: Ah-ha.

David Gould: See the that there. Took some --

Bob Zybach: I think they are moving a tire around or something.

Jerry Phillips: Well I ran across another picture, I have no idea where it came from or who wrote on it, but I'll give it to you.

Bob Zybach: Ah-ha. (affirmative)

Bob Zybach: I brought a bunch of copies of David's pictures so we could compare them. Cabin photos.

David Gould: Well, that must be the . . .

Bob Zybach: Cedar cabin?

David Gould: Where is there? Oh that's Bert's cabin, what they called Bert's cabin.

Bob Zybach: Yep, Bert's cabin.

David Gould: I got a million pictures of it in here, I'll show you later.

Bob Zybach: Well this is a good quality one.

David Gould: Yeah. I got another book in here.

Bob Zybach: Now Jerry I can take this and scan it? And return it?

Jerry Phillips: You can have that one.

Bob Zybach: Wow, thank you.

David Gould: I got one up there.

Jerry Phillips: Dave says he doesn't recognize any of the people there, it seems like he, well I shouldn't say anything at all.

Bob Zybach: Well, Bert's the one that did the survey, I have the survey with it.

Jerry Phillips: Yeah, I know that.

Bob Zybach: In . . .

David Gould: I got plenty of stuff up here. I got this other stuff, too.

[silence from 05:47 until 05:57]

Bob Zybach: Ah ha. The one, will you hold that?

David Gould: This is the Colorado River, look at that. I was on a conference trip with Advocates for School Trust Lands, back in Utah.

Bob Zybach: Uh huh. (affirmative)

David Gould: Representing school children and that's the Colorado River, look at that.

Bob Zybach: Is that after the big spill they had on the --

David Gould: No, that's --

Bob Zybach: Normal?

David Gould: We were up in the park [Arches National Park] up there and it was raining real hard and it come down, that's what the river looks like. It all runs off, I mean that's the way it is.

Bob Zybach: Wow.

David Gould: They can get away with it but we can't. Look at it, it's orange, looks just like OSU.

Jerry Phillips: Well I think the word Colorado in Spanish means --

David Gould: Well, here we go.

Jerry Phillips: Red or colored.

Bob Zybach: Yeah.

Jerry Phillips: It's a color word. Yeah.

David Gould: Can you believe that picture?

Jerry Phillips: Yeah. What's what I . . . the Colorado.

David Gould: I mean when we get something looks halfway like that we'd get fined up here.

Bob Zybach: Wow.

David Gould: Federal government's doing that, that's off a national park.

Bob Zybach: I think that's something that's probably there before the federal government, though. If you look at the soil there, it's always eroding.

David Gould: Oh yeah. Here I want to show you this in that picture. It's that same cabin [Bert Gould's cabin at mouth of Deer Creek].

Bob Zybach: Ah-ha.

David Gould: You can recognize it, it's got the straight rungs of up here. And this corner, this corner is bent down, but this is the same photograph but a different time.

Bob Zybach: Ah-ha.

David Gould: And these horses here, these are George Gould's horses. Two white horses. I got pictures of them here also.

Bob Zybach: Ah-ha.

David Gould: This is the Allegany, but might be these same people here.

Bob Zybach: Yup.

David Gould: Could be.

Bob Zybach: Can you identify any of them?

David Gould: I don't really know who they are. I know this one here is George. But, anyway.

Bob Zybach: Ah-ha.

David Gould: He could have had the camera, I think. I got this also, look at here.

Bob Zybach: Ah-ha, you've got the same photos.

David Gould: They packed in here, setting up the pack, to come on the trails. That's how we got into Elkhorn -- it's all by horse.

Randy Wiest: Still going to make noise. But --

Amber Ross: Well, it's not quite so bad.

Bob Zybach: Well, there's the original photo. There's the one I was familiar with, in there.

David Gould: That's the boat he built [at Elkhorn] to cross that river [to Riverside Ranch in Allegany]. Sounds like we got a flat tire.

Amber Ross: That's the rack behind us.

Randy Wiest: Behind us is --

Stop #B-1. 8:42 Larson Ridge to Sullivan Ridge (1)

David Gould: Now this, we're going up here and there are going to be several, used to be, people living up here and they used to come down, the trail come right down the ridge right in front of us.

Bob Zybach: Sign that says Phillips photos.

David Gould: Anyway the trail comes right down the ridge in front of us, this is where Jerry Grossen lives now. I went to school with him [at North Bend].

Bob Zybach: So this trail here would be what --

David Gould: Well, the one that goes up to the place [Bear Wallow], I can show you where the trail was up on top, up on the hill in the Elliott.

Bob Zybach: Ah-ha. (affirmative)

David Gould: Came out at this way, the trail went right up this ridge, up over the top of it. Turn right [Larson Way to 3000 Road on Elliott].

Randy Wiest: Turn right? Okay.

Jerry Phillips: That's where we leave the county road here.

David Gould: We're starting up the 3000.

Jerry Phillips: We built this road. The State Forest.

Bob Zybach: So we just started up the intersection of the 3000. What did this used to be called? What was the old name of this road?

David Gould: This is state road here.

Jerry Phillips: Larson Slough.

Bob Zybach: Larson Slough Road?

David Gould: Larson, man named Larson Slough. It's got a county number but --

Bob Zybach: Uh huh (affirmative). Let's see, it's . . . yeah just download that folder, all others are irrelevant, or --

David Gould: There's three redwood trees right ahead of us, real thick planting. Oh, when they [Grossens] were living in there -- used to be a house right in where the road is. I played . . . See the trees right there?

Bob Zybach: Yup.

David Gould: About six-, eight-, six-, seven-foot in diameter here.

Bob Zybach: When did they plant those? They planted a lot in the 1880's in western Oregon but --

David Gould: I don't know if they did plant. They went down to see the redwoods and brought some back to plant them. [According to Jerry Grossen, the trees were planted in 1928 by his father, following a family trip to California].

Bob Zybach: Yeah, those look a lot newer than that [vs. 1880s].

Jerry Phillips: The Grossens were not happy to give us this, right away through here but, they understood the way we needed to have it.

Bob Zybach: So if this is Brelage's property they got it from the Larsons?

David Gould: Oh, well Larson's is down, Brelage's is out in the field below down there, his property stopped right back where the road started here [the fence is between Grossen's and Brelage's].

Bob Zybach: Okay, but would the road rights come from --

David Gould: Well this belonged to Tina and Bud Hutchinson [past the Grossens].

Bob Zybach: Ah-ha.

David Gould: Their son does still live here. Jerry Grossen was over there. I went to high school with him.

Bob Zybach: Ah-ha.

David Gould: We used to hunt up in here, the state bought all these, where these homesteads were, a few apple trees and stuff. Hunt down through there, hunt for elk.

Bob Zybach: Ah-ha.

Bob Zybach: Well, Jerry on your map you've got several little cabins in this general area. Here is old building sites. That was a question I had. David just brought up old apple trees, those would be --

Amber Ross: Oh I've seen --

Jerry Phillips: Well all the old homesteads had apple trees.

Bob Zybach: I'm wondering if any are left now.

David Gould: Not very many are left, of the trees currently now. Partly the age. Most of them got too old and died.

Bob Zybach: I'm kind of interested in them, they've got historical value of course, and cultural value. But, also they got a lot of wildlife value. Deer and bear and a lot of people hunted the old orchards for lots of years. If they are still around it seems like those would be things worth preserving, or maintaining, anyhow.

David Gould: You can see this is pretty steep country in here. The people lived back in came down the ridge and then came down the draw here. [There was bench ground above the falls and below us].

Jerry Phillips: This was a trail right through here.

David Gould: Was a trail here too?

Jerry Phillips: Yeah-

David Gould: Okay.

Jerry Phillips: A little lower down.

David Gould: There was a homestead right here, a building when I was . . . yeah right here I think.

Jerry Phillips: There was a homestead a little further up here and we had to walk through there to go to work. Where the road is, and there was a little sauerkraut crock on one of those homesteads.

Bob Zybach: When did they build this road? How old is it?

Jerry Phillips: I think it was about '64.

Bob Zybach: So this was part of the salvage process on the Columbus Day storm?

Jerry Phillips: Yep.

Bob Zybach: Ah-ha.

David Gould: Is this where the place was, Jerry? Here?

Jerry Phillips: A little above here.

David Gould: I know there's some way up, quite a way's further.

Jerry Phillips: The trail was down the hill.

Bob Zybach: When did the people live here? Was it was during the Depression?

Jerry Phillips: Up through the 40's.

Bob Zybach: Up through the 40's?

Jerry Phillips: Yep.

Bob Zybach: Ah. (affirmative)

Bob Zybach: You can always spot the old homesteads by apple trees and daffodils.

Amber Ross: Daffodils?

Bob Zybach: Yep, there's supposed to be some up by the school teacher's cabin but we won't be going there I don't think.

Randy Wiest: And wine bottles.

Bob Zybach: And wine bottles?

Randy Wiest: Some of them.

Bob Zybach: I thought those went down the outhouse, I thought. When you did the archeological reconnaissance of the forest, did you look up the historical location of cabins and stuff?

Amber Ross: Well we tried to. We didn't find very many. Definitely went to the Elkhorn Ranch and the Benson Ranch and tried to take a look at them.

Jerry Phillips: One thing that happened was all these foothill ranches all went to the county for taxes.

David Gould: Well this started in the Elliott Forest about here.

Jerry Phillips: Well, there was no Elliott Forest in Range 12.

David Gould: 'Mile and a half' [road marker].

Jerry Phillips: All of our ownership in Range 12 came after we started work. All the Elliott Forest was in Range 11 and 10.

Bob Zybach: So you acquired those lands, the ones in Range 12 by trade? Or purchase?

Jerry Phillips: A little teeny bit by purchase, but almost all by land trades.

Bob Zybach: Ah-ha.

David Gould: This road needs rock here.

David Gould: We widened this road out, several years ago. It was 14-foot right-of-way initially, I believe.

Bob Zybach: Pretty wash-boarded.

Amber Ross: That's because it's steep and traffic loosens the surface.

David Gould: I had one of the first excavators in the forest. I had one and tried it out and it worked real good and everybody started buying them after that. Sloped the banks with it, before you had to climb up the bank, and it was really hard to slope a lot of this stuff. Come back to do reconstruction, and you could reach up to slope it with an excavator from the road bed.

Bob Zybach: See David, you want these back or you want me to put them back in the box here and store them?

David Gould: Put them in the box where we can get them. Does that trail end below here Jerry?

Jerry Phillips: Right about here. Right about here.

David Gould: They must have used that to go on the places up here I used to hunt.

Bob Zybach: So there's a trail along the ridgeline and then there's also this trail, side hill through here?

David Gould: I know there's one on top of the hill, I don't know what's on top of here, but they had these steep parts to go above..

Jerry Phillips: But if you're on top, the Grossen's kept burning it off, because they were trying to keep good deer and cattle pasture up there.

Bob Zybach: Ah-ha.

Bob Zybach: So they were burning it off for deer pasture? Wow.

Jerry Phillips: Uh huh. (affirmative) That's in the 40's.

Bob Zybach: Ah-ha.

Bob Zybach: Weren't they using their own grazing animals on it too?

Jerry Phillips: I don't know that.

Bob Zybach: Ah-ha. Wow.

Bob Zybach: If these ridgeline trails are the same as south of Allegany all the way down to Rogue River, they are all pretty much ancient Indian trails. They have trails along every ridgeline that I've been able to document so far.

Jerry Phillips: At the same time there were also elk trails. That's how we mostly traveled when we were working back in here, was to travel the elk trails.

David Gould: It's how my grandparents got around with the horses, on the elk trails.

Bob Zybach: Well my hypothesis would be the elk were following Indian trails. Probably for the same reason. Those were the easiest and most accessible points.

Bob Zybach: Now these trees in here, these followed the 1868 fire?

David Gould: Yeah.

Jerry Phillips: That's right.

Jerry Phillips: This is something we acquired through land trade from Weyerhaeuser.

Bob Zybach: Ah-ha.

David Gould: A lot of alder benches in there, that's where they were burning through for farming.

Bob Zybach: So the alder benches in here are the old pasture land?

David Gould: Well, some of it is, yeah.

Bob Zybach: Now in your report you say that there's fires between 1868 and 1910 that weren't documented.

Jerry Phillips: That's right.

Bob Zybach: Well they are documented though. In the survey notes from Bert Gould, it says in there specifically that landowners there continued burning regularly.

David Gould: That's right.

Jerry Phillips: Yeah I know. We know they existed we just don't know what year they were.

Bob Zybach: Well he wrote that note in 1905 and talked about four different areas in that township, which two of them were the Gould family areas, that burning was still taking place.

Jerry Phillips: Sure. That was all deliberate.

Jerry Phillips: If you have 100,000 acres of snags, you're not just gonna just let them go on, you're gonna re-burn and re-burn, just like Tillamook.

David Gould: Right down there is grass ground right out there, see that's where they were living.

Bob Zybach: Ah-ha.

Jerry Phillips: All it takes is strong east wind and a few dry days and there it goes.

Amber Ross: Mm-hmm. (affirmative)

Bob Zybach: One thing I'm curious about here is everybody says the Coos Fire is about 300,000 acres --

Jerry Phillips: That's right.

Bob Zybach: But you've got it mapped out, maybe closer to about 120,000 acres or something.

Jerry Phillips: See you get, a lot of this is north of the river, north of the Umpqua.

Bob Zybach: Oh okay.

Jerry Phillips: I didn't try to map that. I just try to draw a map of where I was working.

Bob Zybach: Ah-ha.

David Gould: This would have been only cedar and timber trees there.

Bob Zybach: Yep.

David Gould: It was all open when I was growing up.

Jerry Phillips: We logged all this right here about, oh maybe '68.

David Gould: Down in there. A lot of alder in it.

Bob Zybach: So if this was logged in '58 how did --

Jerry Phillips: '68.

Bob Zybach: '68, so it was a lot of salvage. From windthrow?

Jerry Phillips: No, this was . . . we acquired title to this ground from the county --

Amber Ross: This part where trees are on the ground. We just entered Common School land.

David Gould: There's a sled trail on top of this ridge here because I came down it when I was elk hunting.

Bob Zybach: What's this, is it called Larson Ridge or something?

Jerry Phillips: Larson Ridge.

Bob Zybach: Okay.

David Gould: Then I shot an elk, didn't know where it went, and several of us went down that away. Now we had to follow a blood trail and my granddad was leading the way and he showed me how to track the elk.

Bob Zybach: Ah-ha.

David Gould: I can look right over there's a repeater [K-Light Radio Tower]. Can't see out but I guess somewhere right over here, most likely. We owned that over there and when we were logging we could look over here at this opening and see the elk and we built a road on top of the divide out here. Just a jeep trail and we used to come out here and go elk hunting. I think we were trespassing, but we were out here.

Bob Zybach: Now what's this little spur here? Does it go up to a landing? Is that it?

David Gould: Yeah it's the landing area.

Amber Ross: It's just right there.

Stop #B-01. 22:52 Bear Wallow Homestead & Plantation. Photos (5): 0946; 0947; 0948; 0949; 0950

David Gould: Down in here there used to be a place that people lived and then further here, this was all open up ahead of us. I can take you down and show you where the spring is if you want.

Bob Zybach: I'm interested in --

Jerry Phillips: Bear Wallow.

David Gould: Pardon?

David Gould: Bear Wallow, yeah, let's go a little more, you had to go a little more here, this . . . Okay.

Bob Zybach: Looks like this is replanted maybe eight, ten years ago?

Jerry Phillips: Mm-hmm. (affirmative) Yep.

Bob Zybach: And then up on the left here, is that seeded in? Aerial seeded, or naturally seeded?

Jerry Phillips: Up here?

Bob Zybach: Yeah.

David Gould: I think that's something up on the ridge. That looks like it's logged out.

Amber Ross: Bob did you want me to take points? About anything you are talking about just let me know.

Bob Zybach: Okay.

Jerry Phillips: It's all been hand planted.

Bob Zybach: Well there's a lot of seeding in here too, in addition to the hand planting. Maybe not, maybe it's just planted really close.

David Gould: Maybe this needs to be thinned.

Bob Zybach: Yeah.

Amber Ross: Yeah.

David Gould: This used to be a big open area down here when I was growing up. Turn right down here, we can go right down where the spring was. Bear Wallow, where the people used to get the water, but when they burnt this, I can show you the trees when we come back where the fire started. We used to burn on the slope up here.

Bob Zybach: So what people would have been burning here?

Jerry Phillips: What it was . . . was an escaped slash burn.

David Gould: Oh. (affirmative)

Jerry Phillips: That's when the State logged in 1968 down to where the Gould house is down there on Kentuck.

Bob Zybach: Uh huh. (affirmative)

Jerry Phillips: That was a rock quarry. They had a lot of old-growth in there. In the 1930s some of it was logged by Sjogren and Whittick.

David Gould: Is that the road there?

Randy Wiest: Yeah.

David Gould: It's got gravel on it.

Randy Wiest: You want to go down that?

David Gould: We can if you want to look at where the Wallow is or not.

Jerry Phillips: After they logged the old-growth here they . . . I'm not sure if they did it on purpose but it all burned, and the fire burned into the state owned third-growth timber and into the old-growth on Kentuck. So we logged all up in there. It was all butt-burned.

Bob Zybach: Hah.

Jerry Phillips: So the --

Randy Wiest: Do we want to go through this?

David Gould: I don't know if you want . . . Did you want to see the waterhole or not?

Bob Zybach: Yeah, I'd like to. We'd like to take --

Amber Ross: How far in is it?

David Gould: Just right ahead of us.

Bob Zybach: How muddy --

David Gould: We can get out and walk. Short walk.

Bob Zybach: Okay. I'll get my camera. Get started with that.

David Gould: I'm pretty sure that's okay to get through that, I'm not sure either.

Randy Wiest: I want to go walk through that.

David Gould: I'd rather walk to make sure. Find out how to --

Amber Ross: Undo yourself? That one's sticky too?

Bob Zybach: There we go.

Jerry Phillips: This is all called Sullivan Ridge up in here.

Bob Zybach: Sullivan Ridge?

Jerry Phillips: Probably because it was adjacent to Larson.

Bob Zybach: Ah-ha. So we went from Larson Ridge to --

Jerry Phillips: Sullivan Ridge.

Bob Zybach: Ah-ha. So this is an old spring through here?

David Gould: Yeah. Right there.

Bob Zybach: So pretty well dried up now isn't it?

David Gould: It could be.

Bob Zybach: Could it be seasonal?

David Gould: Oh, no it was . . .

Bob Zybach: There again, these old waterholes are almost all old Indian camping sites. And then the pioneers come in and . . . Looks like an old landslide through here maybe?

Jerry Phillips: A slump.

Bob Zybach: So this is just a seasonal or just --

David Gould: Oh, it looked a lot like this but there was water in it.

Bob Zybach: I'll take a quick walk. There's a bunch of nettles in here. People used to raise nettles too.

David Gould: There's a hole under that, where it used to be.

Randy Wiest: Huh, yeah.

Bob Zybach: There's a --

Randy Wiest: Empty bottles?

Bob Zybach: I think it might have been in that first spot we were in. It looks like there is a drainage over here.

David Gould: Yeah. That's got to be it.

Bob Zybach: Say, Randy? Would you mind just standing where you are right now? That way I can show how big these trees are. You are the human scale. Thank you.

Bob Zybach: Yeah, I think the spring was one more draw over from where we first stopped there.

Randy Wiest: Yeah.

Bob Zybach: Here's a --

Randy Wiest: See something? An old bed frame?

Bob Zybach: Some old thing, well, and a bed frame too. Wow.

Randy Wiest: Looks like an old road track.

Bob Zybach: Yes, it does.

Bob Zybach: Definitely a plantation. And bear shit.

Bob Zybach: Yeah. It loops around. I'll bet you that goes to the old spring.

Randy Wiest: Probably.

Amber Ross: This looks like a good place to put a cabin.

Bob Zybach: Yeah, I got the feeling like we went over to where we thought the old spring was but it was dried out. But it looks like this road bed here goes into one draw over, I think we just didn't walk far enough.

Bob Zybach: Why this is still open here? That's one thing I'm curious about. What we're discussing is the boomer. If they've made any of these opening and maintained them.

Bob Zybach: We only saw the one old-growth stump there. We haven't seen any others. There's a nest up there in that tree, of some type. Probably a rodent.

Bob Zybach: Amber here is definitely one place we want to mark.

Amber Ross: Yeah.

Bob Zybach: I think it's mainly the spring that we're looking at. There's a lot of cultural plants here, nettles and elderberries and so on.

Bob Zybach: Yeah I think you drove about as far as you wanted to.

Randy Wiest: Yeah.

Bob Zybach: Oh is there a spot to turn around down here?

Jerry Phillips: I think so.

Randy Wiest: About a quarter acre down here.

Bob Zybach: Probably do it right in a spot like this maybe.

Randy Wiest: Have to be careful. Best thing is in this thing you can just turn on the 4-wheel drive. You don't need a road.

[Audible tape "woofing," 35:04 to 37:10]

Bob Zybach: You can turn around here.

Randy Wiest: You drive by that to see that part of the forest. Turn around here.

Bob Zybach: That's a pretty tight turn around. You guys we've already passed three turn arounds.

Randy Wiest: I know.

Bob Zybach: Well, good surface down here.

Randy Wiest: Have to go all the way to the bottom.

Bob Zybach: You're not too far in. Probably be fairly easy to back out. I'm guessing right at the switchback here you can turn around.

Randy Wiest: Yeah, I'll give it a try.

Bob Zybach: Yup. Let's not take any chances.

Randy Wiest: Yeah.

Jerry Phillips: Floods, freezes, and labor troubles.

Randy Wiest: We're gonna back out.

Amber Ross: Yeah.

Randy Wiest: Huckleberries?

Bob Zybach: Yup. I found a lot of old huckleberries all the way down to Indian Point. Just loaded with huckleberries. There's some old-growth in there and down at the bottom there's a myrtle grove. You could restore that by logging out all the plantation around it, preserve the old-growth and the myrtle and let the huckleberries go and make some money without re-foresting. That'd be my plan.

Randy Wiest: Make the huckleberries . . .

Bob Zybach: At least in a few spots. Indian Point would be --

Randy Wiest: It'd be a good one.

Bob Zybach: Yeah this here looks like bird droppings right here along the road. Indian Point is definitely an old huckleberry field.

Randy Wiest: Is it?

Bob Zybach: Same with Huckleberry Point, where we stopped.

Randy Wiest: Oh, there was tons there.

Bob Zybach: Yeah, in both locations.

Randy Wiest: That was impressive.

Bob Zybach: Well Indian Point is about the same. Except there's been squatters down there, leaving their garbage.

Amber Ross: Yeah I got a call about that. Are there people living down there?

Bob Zybach: Nope. It looks like it was abandoned maybe sometime this year. Looks like people where there recently. There's a mattress and car hubcap and . . .

Amber Ross: Are there gonna be any problems?

Bob Zybach: Should be pretty easy to clean up. Pretty drivable road right to it.

Amber Ross: Is there still a log down across that road?

Bob Zybach: No but they've got one tree starting to fall across it. Second growth hung up in an old-growth near the beginning.

Amber Ross: How is that going to be . . .

Bob Zybach: Well somebody --

Amber Ross: That was just recent, then?

Bob Zybach: Wow. Yeah, this garbage is from post-2014.

Randy Wiest: Well, we're backing out.

David Gould: We can't pull in huh?

Randy Wiest: Nope.

Bob Zybach: We went down quite aways. For this rig it would be hard to turn around.

David Gould: Anyway it was right over there and it was big alders about that big, kind of round and then there was a big hole there. I wonder if they filled it up when they logged through here or something.

Bob Zybach: I don't know. There's an opening there. There's one old-growth stump that's rotted down. But other than that I never saw any evidence of an earlier forest.

David Gould: Yeah, this was all pretty much open.

Bob Zybach: I think the spring . . . there's road cut there, a dirt road that heads over that way, and it looks like we were on the one fork and it looks like the main draw comes down this way. I'm guessing if we went over one more we would have hit the water.

David Gould: See we come right off the hill here. Went out and parked and then we could drive there a little way, but this was all open. I chased the elk out of here one time. And it used to be you could look at the waterhole -- it was right over there.

Bob Zybach: Ah-ha.

David Gould: So I don't know what happened to it.

Bob Zybach: Let's see here. That --

David Gould: You got the hubs in?

Randy Wiest: Yeah.

David Gould: Good.

Randy Wiest: They are in 24/7 in this rig. Every day of the year.

David Gould: I need to put my seatbelt on.

Amber Ross: Oh no. You're good.

Bob Zybach: I'll leave mine off too, too hard getting in and out of it.

Amber Ross: You're a little sharp on the side.

Randy Wiest: Well, I'm trying to get a good line up the hill. I think we're good. This'll be the day that one logging truck comes flying down as you're trying to back up on the road.

Bob Zybach: Well there's another old-growth stob.

David Gould: Not very many old-growth trees out in this here.

Bob Zybach: That's only two I saw --

Randy Wiest: Clear?

Amber Ross: Good.

David Gould: You go out this way, to get turned around.

David Gould: This used to be a big opening. I mean it was just open.

Jerry Phillips: It was.

David Gould: Trail went right up that way and up. It was a sled trail, you could drag a sled on it. Four-foot wide sled, on a horse.

Bob Zybach: What they call those, a fro? To widen those roads?

David Gould: No. See the trail, our road went right down below where we are here. Went right down into there from here. We tied the end of it right here. That spring right there, I don't know why you can't find it.

Bob Zybach: I think we just need to go one more ridge over.

David Gould: It's been long after it opens up, knowing --

Bob Zybach: What was that called – froes are for splitting cedar? What did they call that for widening roads? Did they call it a “furrow” [Fresno]?

David Gould: You mean?

Bob Zybach: They ran behind the horses to widen and grade the road.

David Gould: No, that wasn't. No --

Amber Ross: Are we turning around?

David Gould: No [2300 Road].

Amber Ross: Do you know yet?

Randy Wiest: Do we want to turn around or?

David Gould: Well we can take a good spot on ahead where it opens up.

Randy Wiest: Okay. Gotcha.

David Gould: See all this stuff here? This is natural, this came back after the people were in here farming.

Bob Zybach: So these trees are less than . . . these are probably from 1890's or . . .?

David Gould: Some of it. Our road went right on top of this hill here. Just went up and down, up and down.

Jerry Phillips: This is ten acres of privately owned timber here.

Amber Ross: Mm-hmm. (affirmative)

Bob Zybach: So this isn't school property?

Jerry Phillips: No ten acres is privately owned.

David Gould: Now we're back on this spring, yeah.

Amber Ross: Yeah, there's one little wide patch.

David Gould: Oh, down here. Here the only, they don't have any idea of where the forest is.

Bob Zybach: Uh-huh. (affirmative)

David Gould: That land over there is the Elliott Forest. Above the fog, even down over on this side is private ground there in the bottom.

Bob Zybach: Ah-ha.

Bob Zybach: Now this plantation here . . . is this --

David Gould: They logged here twice [2300 divide between Larson and West Fork].

Bob Zybach: Wow. So this was forested but when you got up over where the waterhole was, that was open.

David Gould: Yeah, but there's open spots in this.

Bob Zybach: Oh I see.

David Gould: Winding through here. See the road gone right up on top over to where that, where that tower is over there.

Bob Zybach: Ah-ha. (affirmative)

David Gould: We had a spar tree over there on the hill where the K-Light tower is now and logged about 60 acres under that thing. We used a skyline that reached this ridge. It was third-growth after the 1868 Fire.

Amber Ross: We've had some cedar thefts over here.

David Gould: Some what?

Amber Ross: Some western red cedar trees were cut and taken.

David Gould: There's some land over here back behind the hill.

Amber Ross: Yeah.

David Gould: Somebody came in and cut it.

Randy Wiest: You want to go look at it?

Amber Ross: Oh no, it should be cleaned up now.

David Gould: It's cleaned up now right? Had an awful time of it, got under it one time, I come back and they'd moved it. Got under it, finally came back and took a chunk out of it.

Bob Zybach: Jerry, when we were talking last time, you said about 85% of the Elliott had old-growth -- evidence of earlier burns -- that had snags on it. Now of those 85% of those acres, what was the stem count on the old-growth? Any idea what the density was on those?

Jerry Phillips: You know I really have no idea. It was fairly dense. Similar to the first year, when I counted the ages, and it thins out. So it would've been not as dense as this you're driving through. Well, maybe like this.

Bob Zybach: Yep.

Jerry Phillips: Maybe like this. But it probably wouldn't have been more than, oh I'm guessing, 35, 40 trees to the acre.

Bob Zybach: Of all the large diameter ones?

Jerry Phillips: Uh huh. (affirmative)

Bob Zybach: Well, that's pretty packed.

David Gould: I don't know that there were very many big trees down on the south end of there now.

Bob Zybach: Ah-ha. (affirmative)

David Gould: Look, just some of them, they're not very big. This is a little distant, but where it goes across the hill -- and I'll show you where it stops on the trees on the other side. Trail comes right up, well, through where we're at.

Randy Wiest: Turn right [2300 to 3000]?

David Gould: Turn right now.

Randy Wiest: Okay.

David Gould: Oh, let's stop right here.

Jerry Phillips: See the reason this timber is here because --

David Gould: See the fir on the sidehill, with the scar on the side of it? That's a fire scar and there are several of them.

Tape 5-A End. 47:38

Tape 5-B. Interview with Jerry Phillips and David Gould by Bob Zybach, with Amber Ross and Randy Wiest while touring the Elliott State Forest on November 8, 2017.

Part 2. Burnt Ridge to Trout Creek Canyon (47:30)

Stop #B-03. 0:04 Burnt Ridge to Trail Butte. No photos.

Jerry Phillips: This was A 70-acre patch of sword fern and bracken fern, and snags. You can see elk trails here from the aerial photos. You see elk trails all through this.

Bob Zybach: What's this area called through here? Are we on the same ridgeline?

Jerry Phillips: We call it Burnt Ridge.

Bob Zybach: Oh, this is Burnt Ridge? Okay.

David Gould: We've got a little bit further to go here.

Bob Zybach: To get to Burnt Ridge?

David Gould: Yeah, it's a little bit further yet.

Jerry Phillips: Burnt Ridge is basically almost flat ground. Almost flat.

Bob Zybach: Well, with bracken fern in it, how many stems of Doug fir or other conifers were in the bracken fern?

Jerry Phillips: Well, there were . . .

David Gould: We've got a photograph of it.

Jerry Phillips: We didn't think there were any when we walked through it. But, as it turned out they were all below the height of the bracken fern, and sword fern, and salal. There's heavy salal there, too.

Jerry Phillips: This burned, I think the last time about 1940. People who lived down here in the West Fork would come up here and burn it to keep the deer and the elk herds going.

David Gould: They would burn it when we was logging on Kentuck; cut about '52, I think. You could see smoke out here at one point.

Bob Zybach: Well, the bracken fern prairies, those are probably pretty old. People used to burn those every year for food. But, it seems like this would be part of the area that people occupied pretty regularly.

Jerry Phillips: Well, they came up here from West Fork. They didn't live here. They came up here.

David Gould: This is where they got their dinner.

Bob Zybach: Well, if we took a ridgeline down to Allegany, how far would we be away?

Jerry Phillips: Six or seven miles.

Bob Zybach: Six or seven? Okay.

Jerry Phillips: Not very far.

Bob Zybach: Okay.

Jerry Phillips: Right down there.

Bob Zybach: So that'd be a fairly reasonable walk to here from tidewater.

David Gould: Yes. Where we stopped there at that Bear Wallow, the guy that lived there used to walk every night. It's a trail on a ridge back here that went down to West Fork. And my grandad was logging in the bottom [in 1905] and he worked for my grandad.

Randy Wiest: You want to go left?

Amber Ross: Left.

David Gould: I want to go left.

Randy Wiest: Okay.

David Gould: It was all bare country out here. You don't find stumps from the 1868 Fire any bigger than that [shows circle with hands about 24" in diameter].

Jerry Phillips: The CC's meant to build these roads, but World War II came along and they shut it all down. They did start from different directions, including from where Gould's place is down there on Kentucky Creek. And then they had a spike camp down there. They started in -- they didn't get very far.

Bob Zybach: It sounds like, when both of you have been out here that there used to be trails down all these ridges that were still being used.

Jerry Phillips: There were. But by the elk.

Jerry Phillips: It's coming up on Burnt Ridge, right now.

David Gould: I had come here in the '50s. That road there goes way down towards the Elkhorn. This whole road has been grown in. It's so ridiculous about shutting them down. Down here on the left, it opened up in here to burn it.

Amber Ross: So, it's called Burnt Ridge because of the burning of the bracken fern?

David Gould: Yeah, they burned down here and then they called it Burnt Ridge. Nobody lived up here.

Bob Zybach: Are we on Burnt Ridge now?

Jerry Phillips: Yep.

David Gould: Right.

Bob Zybach: Where is the bracken fern at, mostly? Up along the ridgeline?

Jerry Phillips: Yeah, just over here on top.

Bob Zybach: Okay.

Jerry Phillips: 70 acres.

Bob Zybach: About 70 acres of bracken fern?

Jerry Phillips: Bracken and sword fern.

David Gould: I've got a picture of this in here, let me find it for you. It was taken here, once you get up on top.

Amber Ross: I marked it back, just where we started on it.

Bob Zybach: Oh, good.

Jerry Phillips: There's a picture in my book. It's a diagonal, aerial shot of this ridge as it looked down then.

Randy Wiest: So that's the ridge top right there?

Jerry Phillips: Yeah. Now this has all been thinned in here. Almost all of the ground we could reach with cable thinning was in about 15,000 acres.

Bob Zybach: And so this was part of the 15,000 acres that was thinned?

Jerry Phillips: I think so.

Jerry Phillips: Oh, there we go. There's a [1955] picture of Burnt Ridge.

David Gould: See what I'm talking about? Those aren't very big stubs.

Jerry Phillips: Well that really is --

David Gould: Not much bigger than this [18"] tree right here.

Bob Zybach: So, here's this part of the . . .

David Gould: This was taken probably just around here somewhere.

Bob Zybach: Oh, okay.

David Gould: That's where this was at. This was all open and called Burnt Ridge.

Bob Zybach: And we're traveling down and around through here now?

David Gould: Not too far below us.

Jerry Phillips: We're at the west end.

Bob Zybach: Okay. You've seen the pictures, Jerry?

Jerry Phillips: Yeah, I took that picture.

Bob Zybach: Oh, you took it?

Jerry Phillips: Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Bob Zybach: Oh, well you have seen it. Oh yeah, photo by author.

Jerry Phillips: You see that? They're saying there's 400 year old old-growth up here. See what I'm saying?

Bob Zybach: Yeah, they look like . . . If I was going to guess, there might be 8 or 10 older trees, but they look like they're maybe 100-150 years old.

David Gould: Yeah, they're not that old, apparently.

Bob Zybach: What do you think, Jerry? It looks like they're invasive and then they burnt off.

Jerry Phillips: Well, those are probably 150 years old. In a few years, they burn off again or burn around them again, so, they keep getting smaller.

Bob Zybach: Yeah, but it doesn't look like there's an earlier . . . Like, a lot of the snags we're looking at have big old snags [scattered among them], and then they got an understory. A second age group, like at the reserve there where there's an understory of hemlock to the older Douglas Fir.

David Gould: Yeah, they was burning it off before it got grown.

Bob Zybach: Well, it was bracken fern prairie that's why it looks like these have invaded probably since people used to burn it every year. Let's see, what's this one right here? Oh, that's the trail, okay.

David Gould: That's another photograph of further out here, I can show you.

Bob Zybach: Okay.

David Gould: See how small these snags are? [This photo was taken when Oelo McClay went to the World Fair in Portland in 1906.]

Bob Zybach: But see there. There we got the scattered, larger trees and then they got smaller diameter trees. They're also snags. Jerry, you were estimating that the 1868 fire . . . that the burnt trees were about 300 years old?

Jerry Phillips: Well, the ones I had sampled. A ring-count sample. They were in the bottom, those were in the West Fork bottom.

Bob Zybach: Okay, so those don't cover 85% of the forest or anything? Those are just in some spots?

Jerry Phillips: It varied a lot from place to place.

David Gould: This end didn't have big trees that had been burnt before.

Bob Zybach: That's why I was curious, because it looks like a lot of it, it hadn't been an older forest that burned. It looked like a younger forest had invaded openings.

David Gould: That's what I'm showing here in this one. There's another fire in there.

Jerry Phillips: Dean's Creek was a little younger.

Bob Zybach: The what?

Jerry Phillips: Dean's Creek. Where the elk pasture is up there, off the highway. That end of the forest. That corner of the forest was somewhat younger.

Bob Zybach: When it burnt?

Jerry Phillips: Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Bob Zybach: Ah-ha.

Jerry Phillips: That's what made these old rotten stubs up there.

Bob Zybach: Ah-ha. So, it sounds like the west side of the forest, facing the ocean, that there wasn't near as many older trees.

David Gould: I think it was kind of like it is here, a lot more alder and open.

Bob Zybach: And then what you're saying is a lot of the alder have invaded in to what had been basically a pasturage before?

David Gould: I think a lot of it is just kind of like it is now, you get bigger trees scattered trees with alder in between. [The big limbs show you have little competition. The alder must not have come in for another 30 or 40 years.]

Jerry Phillips: It's curious, these alder in here is the curious part of it. That alder, we know that it's quite old. The old idea was alder, when you get more than maybe 100 years old . . . well obviously it gets older than that. We've seen it -- 60 years ago it was about the same size as it is now.

Bob Zybach: Yep. It just grows up to a certain size and then stabilizes.

Jerry Phillips: It seems like it.

Bob Zybach: That's what I've noticed, too. About 50 or 60 years of age it pretty much stops growing.

David Gould: Now you're coming back to kind of an opening.

Bob Zybach: Well I'm curious, too, there's a lot of records about all the boomer colonies, and it seems like they might have been . . . There was so many of them that they must have been here for hundreds of years.

Jerry Phillips: Well I think so.

Bob Zybach: They would have had to maintain openings just to maintain their colonies, wouldn't they? I've never seen any colonies under dense conifer.

David Gould: Well they seem to. They do okay just eating fern [and young conifer. That is why the alder is coming in].

Bob Zybach: Yep.

Jerry Phillips: But if you plant Doug fir, oh! They prefer that.

David Gould: See this was all pretty open all the way through here on the way down. The trail to Elkhorn came up that ridge over there, and on down [to the stone house].

Jerry Phillips: This is all timber that blew down in '62. And we built the road to salvage it.

Bob Zybach: So these are 70-year-old trees, so they came from about the 1890s when there was people up here burning.

Jerry Phillips: Yep, they did.

Bob Zybach: So they must have stopped burning about that time, roughly?

Jerry Phillips: 1890s.

Bob Zybach: 1890s.

Jerry Phillips: Yep.

Bob Zybach: And the question is, was there a forest here before, or were they burning open bracken fern prairies and that?

David Gould: Well, that's what you get when you burn it after the fire killed the trees. That's the one that killed the trees. The trees weren't any bigger than that is all I'm saying. If not, they're not 300-year-old trees up here.

Jerry Phillips: Not here.

David Gould: So if you get up and around Elkhorn, that big basin in there, that was a bigger stand of timber, kind of like old-growth. That was killed by two fires. One killed the old-growth in 1840, and the 1868 Fire was a reburn of the 1840 snags. And we have lots of proof of that in the photographs.

Bob Zybach: What it's looking like, and maybe you guys got a different opinion on it, but it looks like it was old prairies that got invaded with conifers in about the 1890s. Or no, they had merch ["merchantable"] trees before then, didn't they? Because they had snags, but it looks like the snags are maybe 80 or 100 years old.

David Gould: Yeah, I don't think some of them are that old. Looks deceiving when you get down closer to the bottom of the draw. You get up on the ridge it's a little tighter. That kind of changes your diameter of trees real fast. They logged this in here, and they didn't replant it, did they Jerry?

Jerry Phillips: This was all replanted.

David Gould: This was?

Jerry Phillips: We realized by 1960 aerial seeding couldn't be relied on. Either too much or too little.

Bob Zybach: So where we got alder back there, those are failed plantations? There's a deer right there.

Jerry Phillips: Pretty much.

David Gould: How's the road doing through here?

Randy Wiest: No, it's good. Good shape.

Jerry Phillips: Our road contractor does a real good job.

David Gould: Guy with a shovel does a better job.

Jerry Phillips: Yep, but all in all, on the contracts --

David Gould: I got these holes filled up so we could drive it.

Stop #B-05. 13:40 Trail Butte and Flag Peak to Stull Falls. No photos.

Jerry Phillips: Well, this is Trail Butte right here.

Amber Ross: Trail Butte.

Bob Zybach: Oh, this is? So, one thing I was interested in about Trail Butte. It used to be called Flag Butte.

Jerry Phillips: Flag Peak.

Bob Zybach: Flag Peak. So, where were the flags at?

Jerry Phillips: Well on the south slope.

Bob Zybach: So, how many of . . . was there any kind of acreage to them?

Jerry Phillips: It was just your wild irises, that's what it is, wild iris. It just grows like in a field, open ground.

Bob Zybach: Well, somebody had to put that field there. And so, and the Indians raised wild iris for the rope. It was really valuable. So, if they had a flag patch up here, it looks like it's all real accessible to Allegany. But, would it be like 3 acres or 10 acres?

Jerry Phillips: I would guess probably 10, 15.

Bob Zybach: Oh, wow.

Jerry Phillips: And of course now, it was the Gould's that named it Flag Peak. Because they were . . . This is where we come to a main road here [3000 to 2000].

Bob Zybach: Did somebody die there?

David Gould: You want to turn left now.

David Gould: Turn left?

Bob Zybach: There's all those flowers up there, in that little . . .

Jerry Phillips: I don't know.

Randy Wiest: There's a cross right there, too, it looks like.

David Gould: Well maybe somebody had a problem there.

Amber Ross: Yeah, there's a cross.

Jerry Phillips: So maybe they have.

David Gould: Look at that.

Randy Wiest: Yep. Something happened here. Say you want to go left here?

David Gould: Yeah.

Randy Wiest: Okay.

Jerry Phillips: Now right in front of us, this was about 50 acres of pretty good old growth.

Bob Zybach: Right here?

David Gould: Right here on this side. That's timber that built this road. We used \$10 per thousand to pay for building this mainline road. This was all old-growth, and it's now being thinned, or cabled. Mostly cable thinned.

Amber Ross: We're on the 2000 road now.

Bob Zybach: So where we turned on the intersection was 2000?

Randy Wiest: Yeah.

Amber Ross: Yep.

Bob Zybach: Okay. Are there any of the flags left? Any of that patch left?

Jerry Phillips: I don't think so.

Bob Zybach: Okay.

Jerry Phillips: They were shaded out.

Bob Zybach: All right.

Jerry Phillips: Where we see it now mainly is down in Curry County.

Bob Zybach: At where?

Jerry Phillips: Down in Curry County. These wild iris. They're really meadows.

Bob Zybach: Yep.

David Gould: Anyhow, here is where the [George Gould trail to Elkhorn] trails goes right up on top of this ridge as we go on.

Jerry Phillips: That's exactly where it was.

David Gould: A horse trail.

Jerry Phillips: For a long time you could still walk that trail, right on top of the ridge. And that's how they hauled the organ into the ranch.

Bob Zybach: On that trail there?

Jerry Phillips: Yep, that trail right there.

Bob Zybach: Wow.

Amber Ross: Look at that.

David Gould: Look out towards the ocean there, a little bit further you can see it there in the distance. See, it's just out there about as far as you can see.

Randy Wiest: There's a dune right there.

Amber Ross: Yeah, you can see the sand.

David Gould: A little bit further, Randy.

Randy Wiest: Yep, you can see it right up.

Jerry Phillips: See this whole side, this whole Tenmile Lakes watershed in here where we are. We logged it pretty heavy back in the '60s and '70s. So then, the way the system was designed later on, the HCP [Endangered Species Act Habitat Conservation Plan] made us stop harvesting on the side until the crown closure got where it was okay again. So then there's been virtually no harvesting on this side over here for, must be 20 years. So this is all third-growth over here, but it's pretty good size.

Bob Zybach: It looks like these trees are maybe pushing 80 or 90 years.

Jerry Phillips: Oh, they are.

Bob Zybach: Okay.

David Gould: This is 120, something like that.

Bob Zybach: 120 years?

David Gould: Just about, 1868 they put her back in. Now the trees, they're kind of coming back in clumps. Scattered. A lot of alder in here, everything on this side. That's alder.

Bob Zybach: Did it start out as alder, or are those failed plantations?

David Gould: No, these trees right here are natural.

Jerry Phillips: It's all natural alder.

David Gould: Are they that old? I don't know. I don't think that they get that old.

Jerry Phillips: Well, at the head of Joe's Creek . . . it's up on the left hand side. Looked just the same 60 years ago as it looks now. That stuff is old, that alder.

Bob Zybach: Well it seemed like what we just went through, the alder and the fir were probably about the same age.

Jerry Phillips: Yes, I agree. That's hard to explain historically.

Bob Zybach: The hard part to explain that we keep coming back to, is that this forest was pretty much solid conifers before the 1868 fire.

Jerry Phillips: I believe that.

Bob Zybach: Then, of course, it didn't come back to that and it doesn't seem to be a natural pattern to have reseeding that heavy.

David Gould: Some are in the openings, and start over.

Jerry Phillips: But see, you got to figure also, all the seed changes. Over there, the seed came from clear over there.

Bob Zybach: From the east?

Jerry Phillips: Yep, the east about as far as you can see. So there's the south east winds that brought seed in here, and it was spotty.

David Gould: Must have. See, the trees up here got the seed on them as they grew and they seeded some of the in-between stuff.

Jerry Phillips: Yep, it's erratic.

David Gould: The road's holding up pretty good.

Bob Zybach: Did you build this road in here?

David Gould: No, I filled up these holes. I got to come back again and fill in all the holes.

Jerry Phillips: See these roads here, well after a little more here, then we hit CC roads.

Bob Zybach: So we're still on the network from the Columbus Day storm?

Jerry Phillips: Just about the end of it.

Bob Zybach: Okay.

Jerry Phillips: Where it met the old CC roads. That's the head of Trout Creek.

David Gould: McCulloch [Johnson Creek homestead family] was telling me they cut the right-of-way down about this far ahead of the CC's construction crew.

Jerry Phillips: That's where it was.

David Gould: Because they had to climb up over that to get out over the trail in places.

Jerry Phillips: Pretty amazing, that's what it was. Cuts the right-of-way out way ahead.

David Gould: Or down to here somewhere. Now this ridge here goes down to where the Stulls folks come in on their trail.

Jerry Phillips: Yep.

David Gould: And over here is where the Stull's property is. Trail used go down this ridge and lead us right down to it.

Bob Zybach: I'm guessing the Johnson Creek over here is a different set of Johnson's than the Indian Johnson's in Indian Point?

Jerry Phillips: I think so.

Bob Zybach: Okay.

Jerry Phillips: This trail clear down to Stull's and up to Elkhorn, it's called the Sparking Trail. [Improved by CCC's for fire patrol and telephone line to Allegany.]

Bob Zybach: The what trail?

Jerry Phillips: The Sparking Trail. That's where the Stull boys went to visit the Gould girls. For a little sparking.

Bob Zybach: That's like about a 20-mile jaunt wasn't it [actually about five miles]?

Jerry Phillips: It must have been!

Bob Zybach: And you were asking why people would go from Allegany to Loon Lake. That's your answer.

Jerry Phillips: Well, those were Indians there.

Bob Zybach: Yep.

David Gould: The Terrys used to have property over there by Kentuck and [George] Terry married one of the gals [Frances Gould] in 1903.

Amber Ross: Uh-oh. Let's move that [limb in road].

Randy Wiest: I'll get it.

David Gould: But anyway, that was quite a deal. The old folks didn't really like the Terry boy, but he ended up marrying her anyhow. They sent her down to school down to California to get her away from him once. But imagine walking all the way up here from down there.

Jerry Phillips: Got to be pretty motivated.

David Gould: There's a lot of timber in there that can be logged that they're just playing around with. Crazy.

Bob Zybach: The part I keep having a hard time understanding is how you can take a forest of this dynamic, with landslides and wind storms and wildfires, and say we're going to rotate it this many years. That doesn't make sense.

David Gould: That's about the stuff they run through Southport [Lumber Co.] right now. They're bringing logs out of Canada. They just spent \$5 million on a barge. Bought a barge so they can bring wood in. Because you can't buy it from the Elliott.

Bob Zybach: He seemed pretty satisfied with that, though. He said he gets 100% of his wood from Canada where it's a major outlet and they don't need wood from the state or from the federal government. He seemed okay with that. I guess that's being realistic.

David Gould: I guess it only makes sense.

Amber Ross: The state can't export any of their logs.

Bob Zybach: But they can export other stuff though, can't they? Once it's processed it's alright to export, isn't it -- it's just raw logs.

Amber Ross: I don't know the answer to that.

Jerry Phillips: He's right. It's just raw logs.

Bob Zybach: Can they do cants?

Jerry Phillips: I think so, I don't know anybody doing that, but I think they could.

Randy Wiest: What time is it? Let's see.

Amber Ross: 10:30.

David Gould: Stull's is probably right down over there.

Amber Ross: We're probably a couple miles from the [2300] turn.

David Gould: See right down over there was where the Stull's property was. It came up pretty close to the road here.

Amber Ross: The white patch [looking at map]?

David Gould: Yeah, it's at the end of the road.

Bob Zybach: Is that where they had the sawmill and everything?

David Gould: They had a mill there for a while.

Bob Zybach: Will we be going by there at all, or just looking over it from this way?

Jerry Phillips: It's at the end of the road. There's a picture of that mill in my book here, too.

Bob Zybach: I was interested in getting another photo there, but I can go back on my own like Indian Ridge or something, or Indian Point. Well, Jerry's got a picture of the old sawmill and development there, and I wanted to go back and get a picture from about the same angle. Show what's there today.

David Gould: You'll have to get a key to get in there, I think.

Bob Zybach: Oh.

David Gould: I don't know, does [Mike] Vaughan still own that, Jerry? I think so. I think they got five acres or something in there.

Jerry Phillips: About 15.

David Gould: About 15 acres?

Bob Zybach: So that's the same family that had the sawmill in there?

David Gould: Yes, but it was only used for the logging on their place.

Bob Zybach: Just for logging basically?

David Gould: Once they had the property logged they shut down the mill. The wigwam burner is still there.

Jerry Phillips: Well they eventually had the equivalent of two homesteads plus 80 acres they got from the county.

David Gould: Looks like they got a fence coming up with green firs, growing too close.

Bob Zybach: I keep reading that that's really valuable property. So the Stull sawmill, that was the one down there in the white area that you've got there, okay?

Jerry Phillips: It was the Vaughan [Cooston Lumber Co.] mill.

Bob Zybach: Before it was Stull, or after?

Jerry Phillips: It was long after Stull's.

Bob Zybach: Oh, okay. So, the Stull property, is that still owned by the Stull family?

Jerry Phillips: No, it's 17 acres owned by Mike Vaughan.

Bob Zybach: Oh, okay. By Vaughan, got it. Then he owned the sawmill for a while, also?

Jerry Phillips: Well, that's long after that. Mill was long gone when he came. It was his parents that had it. I would have had the whole thing. He told me he'd give me the whole place, then before we got the deed signed, it was a complicated trade, he stepped on his front porch and he fell on a sheet of ice, cracked his head, wasn't able to function anymore and his wife told their son Mike that he could decide. So I got him argued down to 17, we all looked at 17 acres.

Bob Zybach: What do they use the 17 acres for?

Jerry Phillips: Nothing. There's an old house on it.

Bob Zybach: Oh, still?

Jerry Phillips: They have lived in the house. It's like that movie, *The River Runs Through It*.

Bob Zybach: Yeah.

David Gould: When I was a kid we went up there one time and went swimming there. I just about drowned out there in the river. I got down in the water, I couldn't swim. I went to jump, and I'd go further out and jump. Pretty quick I was going underwater. Somebody finally come and got me out. I won't forget that.

Jerry Phillips: See one of the marks that shows on some maps Stull Falls. Stull Falls was obviously on the Stull Ranch.

Bob Zybach: Did they use that as a way to power the sawmill?

Jerry Phillips: Nope.

Bob Zybach: Did fish run out all the way to the Stull Falls?

Jerry Phillips: Oh yeah, and past.

Bob Zybach: Oh, they could get over the falls?

Jerry Phillips: Now they've gone back, Fish and Wildlife, now they've gone back and did some more work on the falls. When you say falls, it's like Klamath Falls. There's really no falls, it's a little riffle really.

Bob Zybach: So most of the falls on the map and that, are passable by salmon?

Jerry Phillips: Yeah.

Bob Zybach: Okay.

Jerry Phillips: Well, because they've been improved. Fish and Wildlife came and they built a ladder at the falls on Elk Creek after we had opened the road there, and then Stull's Falls, same thing. And then Smith River Falls up there, these are all just little riffles in the river, really.

Bob Zybach: So, not much of an impediment to the fish?

Jerry Phillips: No, not much. Maybe three feet.

David Gould: This photograph I got was taken somewhere behind where we were back there, beyond the lookout, if you want to look at it.

Bob Zybach: This one you mean?

Jerry Phillips: Yeah, it was taken with the girls [Oela McClay and Millie Gould] up here on horses. See these small stubs?

Bob Zybach: Yeah.

Jerry Phillips: That's what I keep talking about, a lot of this was big old-growth timber at one point.

Bob Zybach: So, her [Oela's] name's is pronounced "Ella"?

Jerry Phillips: Yeah.

Bob Zybach: "Ella," okay.

Jerry Phillips: And Millie, I think.

Bob Zybach: Millie.

Jerry Phillips: But they're on the trail you can't really see, but that's what it says. See how small the stuff is laying there?

Bob Zybach: Yeah, see that's what I'm wondering. You see those trees there? They're invasive. They come in there and it looks like those snags --

David Gould: That's the stuff that keeps growing over here on the side.

Bob Zybach: Yeah, and it looks like this stuff here invaded an old bracken fern prairie, and it looks like maybe a stem or two [of the Douglas fir are] larger. And that looks like a pretty standard pattern. So, it looks to me like, here's a big old wide bracken fern prairie, then you got fir that invaded, and it looks like it went a lot of years without being burnt, then they burned it and killed those trees at that time.

David Gould: The fire was 1868. It killed all this.

Bob Zybach: So you think those date back to 1868 fire?

David Gould: I'm sure they are. Most of the trees grow now after the fire.

Bob Zybach: But it just doesn't look like there's an older stand that crowned out or anything. It look like it was an old prairie and these invaded.

David Gould: Most everything from here back to the Coos Bay isn't that big of timber, when you think of it.

Bob Zybach: Yep.

David Gould: You have another fire and it just doesn't grow back or whatever.

Amber Ross: We're getting close to our turn, Randy. It's going to be a hard right downhill [2000-2300].

Randy Wiest: Okay, solid.

David Gould: Hard right down there.

Jerry Phillips: You start seeing the bigger stumps when you get down there.

Bob Zybach: Well, I guess the point I'm trying to make, let's say those trees are 70 or 80 years old and they invaded a bracken fern prairie that had probably been burnt almost every year, when the area was more occupied by people. Now it looks like somewhere maybe around 1800 or 1810, when the population crashed the people, it looks like those fir moved out into the bracken fern. It doesn't look like there's an older stand in there that they --

Jerry Phillips: See Bob, when you use the term prairie, to people who live in Coos and Curry County . . .

Stop #B-06. 34:16 Cedar Cabin and Trout Creek Canyon. No Photos.

Bob Zybach: Can we stop here just a second Randy?

Randy Wiest: Sure.

Bob Zybach: There might be a cabin site.

David Gould: It's over here.

Amber Ross: We're going to go down.

David Gould: Can we go that way? Right over here to the right.

Randy Wiest: We did turn to the right, yeah.

Jerry Phillips: That's the old trail that went down to the Elkhorn Ranch.

David Gould: Right there, that's it. I opened the ends of that trail [2300 above Elkhorn Ranch] up so I can walk on it and go up the hill now.

Bob Zybach: Now where was the Cedar Cabin, because we've got photos?

David Gould: Right about over here somewhere.

Jerry Phillips: Right where the road is. Right in the middle of the road.

Bob Zybach: Oh, I see, so we're driving over it here.

Jerry Phillips: And this is as far as the CC's built the road. Where Dean's Mountain stops, that's where they stopped.

Bob Zybach: Okay, so the CCC road stops here, there's a cedar cabin right here, there's the trail to the Elkhorn, and now we're going down to a newer road?

David Gould: Yeah, 2300.

Bob Zybach: So the 2300 goes to the Columbus Day Storm salvage, or is that 3-C's?

Jerry Phillips: We're going down Trout Creek now.

Bob Zybach: Trout Creek?

Jerry Phillips: Trout Creek.

David Gould: This was built after this one, too.

Amber Ross: I think it is in the book.

Jerry Phillips: That's right.

David Gould: Is what?

Amber Ross: The Vaughan Ranch, or the Elkhorn Ranch?

David Gould: We're going to the Elkhorn Ranch.

Amber Ross: Elkhorn Ranch.

Bob Zybach: I think the Vaughan Ranch was the one that we were talking about the Stull sawmill.

David Gould: We've been following the trail that was on top of the ridge and then goes around and drops down that grade there. It stays pretty much on top of the ridge, and then it just dives off down into the ranch.

Jerry Phillips: There never was a Stull sawmill. That was built after Stull's lived there. It was built by George Vaughan. The mill was George Vaughan's.

Bob Zybach: Okay, that's the part I wasn't getting clear.

Jerry Phillips: Yeah, it was the Vaughan mill on the old Stull place.

Bob Zybach: Got it, okay, I thought Stull would have the sawmill there.

Jerry Phillips: No.

David Gould: The Stulls were in here when my grandparents were in, wasn't it?

Jerry Phillips: Yeah.

David Gould: When they built the boat up here and took it down the river they had to stay in the Stull's house all night because they were having trouble getting over the falls there. They had to rope it over the falls with cable.

Bob Zybach: Where is the bridge from here [George Gould constructed to Elkhorn in 1890]?

David Gould: What's the name of it?

Bob Zybach: The one with the 70-foot span.

David Gould: Oh, we're going down there. It's down in the bottom.

Bob Zybach: Oh, okay. Good.

Bob Zybach: I didn't want to miss it, but the Cedar Cabin, that was one spot.

David Gould: That's right here.

Bob Zybach: We know right where it's at and you got --

Jerry Phillips: It was still here when we built the road, the Cedar Cabin was.

Bob Zybach: Well I think you took a picture of it, even.

Jerry Phillips: Yeah, I didn't take it. It was another guy who took it.

Bob Zybach: Oh, okay.

David Gould: I looked at it when we went by there. My grandad brought me on the old CC road and we stopped at it then, and walked in and stopped at the Elkhorn. I think I was about eight at the time.

Bob Zybach: So just right up there next to the Cedar Cabin. You walked in from there?

David Gould: Well, actually I think it's about 400 yards further down, where the CC's built it, and we drove to the end of it. It was pretty rough and it was mostly sandstone, which breaks down easily. There's a lot of rock in that road.

Bob Zybach: Amber, when you were doing the archeological survey, would this kind of information have been helpful to you at that time?

Amber Ross: Yeah, it was mostly based off of Jerry's historical sites that he listed in his book.

Bob Zybach: Okay, so basically we're just rerouting that then, in certain ways . . .

Amber Ross: A little bit. All the major sites. Yeah, but all the trail information, that **would have been helpful for Gary [name?], for our archeologist[s?]**.

Bob Zybach: Well anything over 50 years now is considered a potential cultural resource. So all of the road network we've been going over has been pre-1880's trails to 1968, say? All over 50 years of age.

David Gould: . . . we're coming into it right now.

Bob Zybach: Well, things change. Still some old snags out there.

David Gould: There's trees out there, no problem growing trees.

Bob Zybach: Does that little peak out there have a name?

Jerry Phillips: No.

David Gould: I don't know. There's a place over there, but you can't see it anymore, down there. When you come around the corner look and you'll look and you'll see some old snags in the bluff up ahead of us.

Bob Zybach: The snags I'm seeing here aren't from the fire though, they're newer.

David Gould: Here, on that hill right there.

Jerry Phillips: Okay, you're right, David.

David Gould: You can't see them in there, when you turn the corner see if you can see them.

Randy Wiest: Do you want to stop?

David Gould: Those snags are a little bit bigger; about the same size as the trees there now.

Bob Zybach: I can see them, yeah. I just saw one stob there.

David Gould: What blows my mind, I built road in all this kind of stuff and you can't dig this rock up with a Cat no matter what you do. This was all eroded out here by nature over a long time.

Bob Zybach: As far as?

David Gould: And that burn came out of here. What you can see is that this rock was all connected over there at one time.

Bob Zybach: So you're saying this whole basin in here, is . . . ?

David Gould: The rock matches up on both sides of the valley [sandstone layers about 40-feet thick or more].

Bob Zybach: Wow. So you took geology in school, I only took soils class, I think. But what do you think happened? Do you think there was some kind of a . . . ?

David Gould: There was some erosion out here.

Bob Zybach: So it was a gradual erosion process. It wasn't some kind of catastrophic event?

David Gould: It was gradual, it's been forever.

Jerry Phillips: The Tyee formation goes really from here clear up to Corvallis.

David Gould: Yeah, it's all up there. Each one of these layers is an important find. It all happened someplace. I mean, that was all on the cliff's erosion.

Bob Zybach: That was the question. This all moved at once, it was an event, not a gradual process? Some kind of regional event?

David Gould: Well it had to be because it's all moving downstream in the current to the ocean.

Jerry Phillips: See, it was all sandstone so it was all under the ocean.

Bob Zybach: That goes all the way up through Lincoln County, all of Lincoln County or the Yaquina drainage, it's all sandstone. There's no hard rock in it.

Jerry Phillips: Just isolated places like Seal Rock.

Bob Zybach: Or the [OSU] school forest. That's the Siletz formation, that's furthest east I think, it's McDonald Peak, that area. Coffin Butte, that's it.

Bob Zybach: Sure a lot of alder through this country. Was that fir and then logged off and went to alder?

Jerry Phillips: In some cases it was. We have really spread the alder. It wasn't quite as much when we started to work on it. We spread it.

Bob Zybach: Jerry, when you first started working out here you were doing part of the inventory process.

Jerry Phillips: All of it.

Bob Zybach: Wow. So where are the records from that? That was one of the things I had on the list; to try and find your resulting inventory maps.

Jerry Phillips: You know actually, I'm curious of that myself. Those were very hard created maps, all that work, and they just kind of disappeared. I don't know whatever happened to them.

Bob Zybach: Were they there when you retired?

Jerry Phillips: I don't think so. They may have taken it to Salem. Like McWade's old maps, that he pulled out of a dumpster.

Bob Zybach: John McWade.

Jerry Phillips: Yeah.

Bob Zybach: He gave me that and a bunch of records from the 1940s.

Jerry Phillips: Yeah, those old maps, when they got to Salem, probably somebody threw them away.

Bob Zybach: Wow. I was just lucky to run into John McWade in the late 80's. That record I showed you last time from 1945, that was from McWade.

Bob Zybach: It's like a lot of Lincoln County, too. It seems like Tyee is, you log off the scattered fir, it turns into alder if you're not careful.

Jerry Phillips: That's pretty much true. It's real fertile soil, Tyee is. Look at the chemical analysis, it's very fertile soil.

Bob Zybach: I think in Lincoln County, and maybe it's the same here, that the soil is so rich that the alder really doesn't fix nitrogen. Is that the same process here?

Jerry Phillips: That's right.

Bob Zybach: Amber, did you go to Oregon State, too?

Amber Ross: Yep.

Bob Zybach: So we're all . . . Five Beavers here.

Amber Ross: So why wouldn't the alder fix nitrogen here?

Bob Zybach: Well, I guess the theory is. . . Mike Newton did some work around Lincoln County, the theory is that it's got so much nitrogen in the soil there already, that it doesn't fix it.

Amber Ross: So it's already available full time?

Bob Zybach: It doesn't fix it. I'm not sure exactly what the mechanics are, I don't know if anybody knows. That's why I was asking.

Jerry Phillips: That is the idea. If you add fertilizer -- aerial fertilization -- to poor soil you get great results. As the soil gets better and better, and keep adding it, it has almost negative effects. It can't stand anymore if it's already too saturated. As an example.

Bob Zybach: How old are these alder through here, about?

Jerry Phillips: Some of these are fairly young, maybe 40 years old. This whole canyon's been logged. We logged this whole canyon here.

Bob Zybach: What's the name of this canyon?

Jerry Phillips: Trout Creek.

Amber Ross: Trout Creek.

Jerry Phillips: We logged this whole canyon in about '66 maybe. Somewhere in '66.

David Gould: Took up rock and put it on the road here, hauled it in and filled in the potholes toward Elkhorn.

Jerry Phillips: This was one contract that built this whole road, from up on Elk Ridge, the 1000 Road, clear back here to the 2000. All one contract.

David Gould: Who was that? Al Pierce?

Jerry Phillips: Al Pierce bought it, and then [Warren] "Brownie" Coldiron wanted it. Brownie loved to build roads. They tried to build them so the trucks would have an easier time hauling on it.

David Gould: That made sense. Had to spend that much money and then widen it. Got into rock and it got expensive, though.

Bob Zybach: That's where you got involved, wasn't it?

Jerry Phillips: He didn't want it --

Tape 5-B End. 47:38

Tape 6-A. Interview with Jerry Phillips and David Gould by Bob Zybach, with Amber Ross and Randy Wiest while touring the Elliott State Forest on November 8, 2017.

Part 3. Jacobson Fishing Camp & Elkhorn Ranch (47:43)

Bob Zybach: While you have the truck in park, can we just stay here for just a second?

Randy Wiest: Oh, you bet.

Stop #B-07. 0:08 West Fork Old-Growth Alder. No photos.

Bob Zybach: I want to repeat some of that. There's an older tree there that looks like it grew up in the open with the lower limbs. Is that after the 1868 fire?

David Gould: Yeah, yep.

Bob Zybach: And then that alder's after the 1868 fire, and so the younger trees without so many lower limbs, they've come in later.

David Gould: Yeah.

Bob Zybach: This is pretty flat here, was somebody living here?

David Gould: No, this was all open.

Bob Zybach: It was all open?

David Gould: Yeah.

Bob Zybach: So we're on the West Fork . . .

Jerry Phillips: We are.

Bob Zybach: . . . of the Millicoma, and we're in an area that was hit by the 1868 fire and came back into alder, and the alder is still here.

Jerry Phillips: That's right.

Bob Zybach: What's the reason this was never logged, Jerry?

Jerry Phillips: Riparian Zone. Riparian buffer.

David Gould: Too many other options that were better. That's part of it.

Jerry Phillips: Can't touch it.

Bob Zybach: They didn't have Riparian Zones at that time, in the 50s and 60s.

Jerry Phillips: Up to about, I would say 1955, alder was worthless.

Bob Zybach: Okay.

Jerry Phillips: It had no value to it.

Bob Zybach: So that was the reason.

David Gould: Usually, alder keeps from breaking the big trees in a lot of places. I used to cut timber, I knew all about that.

Jerry Phillips: You bet, the red cedar was the same way.

David Gould: Anyway, see how this opens up this way?

Bob Zybach: Yep.

David Gould: Now, that was probably an alder in there but it died, you can see. Look over here at the rot, you can see that it is rotten in there.

Bob Zybach: Yep.

David Gould: That's fell down and it's come back to brush, that's what's left there now; its opening.

Bob Zybach: So you don't think that was just straight brush to begin with?

David Gould: No, that would have been alder in there, also.

Bob Zybach: Okay.

David Gould: We go further you can see that all the time. As the alder gets older it dies. I don't understand how this is as old as it is.

Bob Zybach: That's what I was curious about, that's like 150 years old.

Jerry Phillips: I don't think we totally understand that.

David Gould: Maybe cut them down and measure them, look at the grain I guess.

Bob Zybach: The older trees there . . . they used to call that bastard growth, when it was out in the open. What'd you call it?

David Gould: Yeah, sounds familiar.

Bob Zybach: Okay, just wide rings and big lower branches.

David Gould: Yeah, there's quite a bit of that in the bottoms.

Jerry Phillips: That's right.

Bob Zybach: Yep.

Jerry Phillips: It's also called Coos River second-growth!

Bob Zybach: Coos River second-growth? The point is, it's looking to me like a lot of the stuff that came in after the 1868 fire could have been a similar pattern before then and that's only two and three and five and 10 stems an acre, which doesn't seem like it'd be enough to carry a crown fire, a killing fire.

Jerry Phillips: Well you know, when you have let's say, two weeks of dry weather, and then you put in a 20- to 30-mile an hour east wind through that, anything will burn.

Bob Zybach: Even the alder in the draws?

Jerry Phillips: Alder will burn, brush will burn. When the [1936] Bandon Fire burned, even the rocks out in the ocean burned.

Bob Zybach: Wow.

Jerry Phillips: Tops of those rocks out in the ocean.

Bob Zybach: Just radiant heat. Or was it embers?

Jerry Phillips: In extreme low humidity, the humidity of six percent, five or six percent, anything will burn. It would burn right through this alder here.

David Gould: Once it gets going it creates more fire too, blowing uphill. Just like a big tornado.

Randy Wiest: That's right.

Jerry Phillips: Normally this is fireproof, but you put enough east wind against that . . .

Bob Zybach: I'm not sure that I've ever been in an alder before that I was told is 150 years old, that's about as old as it gets.

Jerry Phillips: It certainly is. When I was a lot younger, I thought it was maybe age 90 was about it for alder. Oh no, we can see a lot of it on the state forest here.

I'm thinking some at the head of Joe's Creek that obviously is at least 120 years old.

Bob Zybach: Wow. Well we can keep going Randy.

Randy Wiest: Okay.

Jerry Phillips: And then the question here is, it's pretty low here. If this was up higher, it would tend to be broken up by the strong wind.

David Gould: Snow's a big hazard for it too.

Jerry Phillips: Yes.

Bob Zybach: There's a lot of snow-break.

Jerry Phillips: Even snow will do it.

Bob Zybach: When was the last ice storm you recall through here? I've never heard of one.

David Gould: Not many.

Jerry Phillips: I can't put a year to it.

Bob Zybach: But they've had ice storms through here?

David Gould: Oh yeah.

Jerry Phillips: Oh yeah. And one winter, back in '69, we had about 20 inches of snow. Heavy, wet snow.

Stop #B-08. 5:32 Bob Jacobson Fishing Camp. Photos (6): 0951; 0952; 0953; 0954; 0955; 0956

Bob Zybach: They still get big fish runs through here now?

Jerry Phillips: Oh yeah.

David Gould: Yeah.

Jerry Phillips: When David's dad was building this road we were concerned about his family that were going on to it. So we called him up and he said "one's Lost Creek and one's Ring Creek." Those never made it on to a map, but those were what convinced his family we were going on.

David Gould: Right here, you see the rock formation? That's kind of where it is. Then it kinda goes out and then you have a water or a puddle, a place where water sits. That's where [Bob] Jacobson's catching them fish.

Bob Zybach: So he wasn't on the North Fork, he's on the West Fork?

Jerry Phillips: That's for campers.

David Gould: This is the main road, if you look up there you can see the hole. When I came in here, when I was a kid, before road construction by the state, these holes would have maybe one or two big fish in them and maybe 16-, 18-inches long. And they kind of ran the show I think.

Bob Zybach: I'd kind of like to take a picture here.

Randy Wiest: Yep, okay.

Bob Zybach: Kind of an elaborate process here [getting in and out of vehicle with gear].

David Gould: For some reason they started to fill up the gravel, it has something to with slides in the creek down there.

Bob Zybach: So this is where Jacobson used to fish?

David Gould: This is one of the holes. The other one is up above Elkhorn.

Bob Zybach: Okay.

David Gould: Someone locked the doors now.

Amber Ross: Will you unlock the doors Randy?

Randy Wiest: Oh, sorry. No you guys can't get out.

Bob Zybach: Childproof and old guy proof. Quite the maneuvering.

Randy Wiest: Probably not a good shoulder to get out on. Oh, he's just taking some quick photos?

David Gould: Yep.

Amber Ross: Want to see where we're at?

Randy Wiest: Sure.

Amber Ross: All right, we are . . .

Randy Wiest: Should be right in there somewhere, shouldn't we? Those numbers are awful small.

Jerry Phillips: The Elkhorn Ranch is in [section] 26.

Amber Ross: Flip her over. 8100, so is this the 8100?

Randy Wiest: That looks like 81, I sure can't read that.

Amber Ross: So we left the 2300.

David Gould: And right below there we built the road. It was all full of brush and stuff.

Amber Ross: We turned down here and then we're following the river here.

Randy Wiest: Oh, gotcha.

Amber Ross: And we're heading there.

David Gould: That's another campsite here that people use.

Amber Ross: Yeah this is a pretty big one too isn't it?

Jerry Phillips: Yep, they really enjoy that one.

Amber Ross: Yeah.

David Gould: This got pretty bad here for a while.

Amber Ross: Yeah the brush grows quick down here.

David Gould: We are going to cut the brush which my daughter didn't want us to do so I didn't do it. My son's got two brush cutters. He got a permit to do it, and she got the notice cause it's her property and then she said , "Yeah, I want you to cut the brush." End of story.

Amber Ross: End of story.

David Gould: I got a sciatic nerve that's just going crazy all the time.

Amber Ross: Oh no. Sitting all day might be no fun.

David Gould: Now there used to be a trail, we built a trail up the road here from the Stulls, must have been the CCC's.

Jerry Phillips: They strung a telephone line at the same time.

David Gould: Yeah there was a telephone line coming up the trail up the river. It was a wide trail too. I came up it one time. And then my grandparents had a telephone line on top when they were here, they had a phone here. They had a place down in Allegany [Riverside Ranch] and then they had the phone to connect the two.

Amber Ross: Oh, wow.

David Gould: They had a lot of trouble with phone lines broken because of trees falling down.

Amber Ross: Oh I'm sure.

David Gould: Where'd Bob go? He must be fishing.

Amber Ross: He went up the road aways.

David Gould: When we get down here in the water you can see these great big trees that are the same age, just the grains are a lot tighter, a lot coarser.

Amber Ross: Yeah, there's some huge trees in here.

David Gould: Yep. That's some make-believe old-growth trees.

Amber Ross: Make-believe? Just 'cause there's so much water and deeper soils?

David Gould: Yeah so much bigger. I started calling the environmentalists on the old-growth stuff when they came back with old-growth characteristics on me; figured that one out.

Amber Ross: Yeah, you can't go by size or height.

David Gould: I've been fighting this thing for the schoolchildren for a long time, not getting anywhere right now.

Bob Zybach: Ready to get back in.

David Gould: I didn't see you coming. He's like a squirrel.

Bob Zybach: There's some really nice timber here. There's a bunch of posts in the road next to a real nice camping spot, they even got some firewood there, but they're posts, they're upright.

David Gould: Oh yeah.

Bob Zybach: What was that about?

David Gould: Just for the campsite I guess.

Amber Ross: Oh, I read something about that once.

Bob Zybach: Somebody put something in there for some reason.

Amber Ross: I think they were going to try and establish a real campsite and it just never took.

Bob Zybach: Well, it's pretty nice still.

Amber Ross: Yeah.

Bob Zybach: It's got a little road hooked down and then it's got this real nice timber through here. So does this timber date to an 1890's natural seeding?

Jerry Phillips: It's '68.

David Gould: That's 1868.

Bob Zybach: Oh this goes back to 1868? Wow.

David Gould: That's what the environmentalists call 'old-growth'. Old-growth characteristics.

Bob Zybach: Well some of them, like this right here, that's still 1868? The larger ones?

Jerry Phillips: Yep, it is. You can tell by the bark.

David Gould: There's your big alder down there. Looks like it's breaking off, too. Looks like it is coming apart. Is this thing still on or are we talking?

Bob Zybach: Yeah it's still on. I think we missed a little bit back up there before we stopped, but at the same time I think we repeated most of it, so I don't know how much we missed, if anything.

David Gould: Now this brush you see along the road didn't used to be in here. That came back here after they started logging I think.

Jerry Phillips: After the road building.

David Gould: Yeah because they didn't used to have that.

Bob Zybach: I'm interested in solid patches of salmonberry that might have existed before the fire but like you're saying this all came in with road building and traveled around and salmonberry kind of follow the equipment.

David Gould: It used to be pretty open in the past.

Bob Zybach: Was it Scholfield Creek, Jerry, that you said had some big heavy patches of salmonberry on it?

Jerry Phillips: That was Tenmile Butte.

Bob Zybach: Oh, Tenmile Butte.

David Gould: Let's hope we don't have one of them fall down behind us [an alder had been cut up and lay alongside the road].

Amber Ross: Right?

Bob Zybach: Well Jerry's got a chainsaw doesn't he?

Randy Wiest: We're all [OSU] Beavers, we'll get it. I got a pocket knife.

Stop #B-11. 14:36 Potato Patch & Elkhorn Ranch (14): 0957; 0958; 0959; 0960; 0961; 0962; 0963; 0964; 0965; 0966; 0967; 0968; 0969; 0970

David Gould: Right down here is what they used to call the potato patch. They grew potatoes out there. Water here, right out in here somewhere.

Bob Zybach: So this is a potato patch here?

David Gould: Yeah, the potato patch. They grew potatoes out here.

Bob Zybach: Can we put a marker on that?

David Gould: Quite a bit of water coming off the rock up here and they use it for their water.

Bob Zybach: Wow. So even with the alder and the salmonberry here, before then it was just a field?

David Gould: Well they grew potatoes in this part, they had to clean it up a little bit. They had fern like these here, and they had to get rid of the logs. Plowing it up -- he had a plow -- and then they found a scraper tool they used, and the kids would throw them [potatoes] up over the bank.

Bob Zybach: These alder here, did they grow up after the potato patch then?

David Gould: Oh yeah that's all grown up since then. This wasn't here at one point, just snags.

Bob Zybach: So we're on the old Elkhorn homestead right now basically?

David Gould: Just about, yeah.

Bob Zybach: Okay, so the potato patch was . . .

David Gould: Down here, yeah.

Bob Zybach: Okay, just a little bit off the land claim.

David Gould: You got to realize the whole forest down here was to build a ranch. To run cattle on it was the main aim, to get the cattle range on the whole watershed.

Bob Zybach: But when they made the claim on the land it didn't include this necessarily.

David Gould: No. I think they got the timber sale over there now. The Elkhorn Ranch timber sale was logged. Protestors tried to stop it, but we ran them off so they got to logging.

Bob Zybach: We got that covered in, that story is in your [SWOCC student] report [*Big Fires, The Elkhorn Ranch, and the Elliott State Forest, 2013*].

David Gould: I visited those same people that was in the Elkhorn, in the valley here a couple weeks ago.

Bob Zybach: Was it the same group or the exact same people?

David Gould: Well the same group . . . Forest Service was there; they didn't do anything.

Bob Zybach: Jerry the whole time you were managing this was there any protests at all ever on any of the logging sales or anything?

Jerry Phillips: No, there were some complaints, very minor ones about aerial spraying.

Bob Zybach: Ah-hah.

Jerry Phillips: I made it a point to go out personally and talk to all those neighbors every time. Tell them when we were going to do it, ask where their water source was, and happy them up, and we didn't have any major problems. We've got accommodations from our state office on avoiding that. Because of course, every forest has people that live around the edge.

Bob Zybach: So any conflicts are mostly just neighboring landowners, there weren't any organizations or anything like that?

Jerry Phillips: No, nope. We didn't have any problems like that.

David Gould: We're on the Elkhorn Ranch property, here.

Jerry Phillips: That's right.

Bob Zybach: So was this all cleared?

David Gould: Yeah this was cleared and the grass was all on it. The old maid, Oela, and my great grandmother was out here with a cross-cut saw cutting up logs to get wood once in a while.

Jerry Phillips: Now in the summer there's campers in here all the time.

David Gould: You got the people with four wheelers who just love to come in here and tear it up, too.

Jerry Phillips: That's right.

David Gould: We had trouble with that on the other side. They want to tear up my grass and we didn't like it, but I've got them trained now.

Jerry Phillips: It was a popular place for the hippies back in the '70s.

David Gould: Yeah the "Elkhorn Express" [music group] got their name from out here.

Jerry Phillips: That's right -- music group; their name for it.

Bob Zybach: Which "butte" [misunderstood name]?

Jerry Phillips: This place.

Amber Ross: Music group.

Jerry Phillips: Elkhorn Express.

David Gould: There's the waterfall there, see it?

Bob Zybach: Okay, so it's just more of a ripple.

David Gould: Yeah, that's where they have the hole, that's where the kids would come swim and stuff. I brought Chief Brainard of Coos out here and told him about the stories of the Indian families that were in here when the fire went through, got in the water, and one of the daughters died there it got so hot.

Bob Zybach: So that's right at this spot here? And where'd you hear that story from?

David Gould: I heard that from my grandparents, about the Indians.

Jerry Phillips: That's where the trail comes down there from the ridge.

Bob Zybach: So when we turned off way back there that would have connected up to here [2000, 2300, and 2320]?

David Gould: Yeah that connects here yeah, I opened that up a bit last year. So you could find it and people can walk it if they want.

Bob Zybach: So it would be the trailhead basically, the story was that the Indians were here in the 1868 fire and a little girl drowned in that spot? Wow.

David Gould: Yeah.

Amber Ross: So that's the ranch there?

Jerry Phillips: The last of the apple trees are still bearing apples.

Bob Zybach: But it's on the other side of the river?

Jerry Phillips: That's right.

David Gould: We can go over there if we keep going. I'm pretty sure we can get across.

Jerry Phillips: Oh, and of course there were lots of apple trees there. We want pictures? My book shows how many.

Bob Zybach: Is that the apple trees over there?

Jerry Phillips: Yep.

Bob Zybach: Okay, good.

Jerry Phillips: The bears are raised up on apple trees.

David Gould: Beavers raise heck with them, too. They were cutting them down. We had to put wire around them. I got up here too late and they had to cut a bunch of them down.

Bob Zybach: One of the orchards that I documented on a school forest went back to the late 1840s and about two years later half of them were wiped out by beaver.

David Gould: There's no gravel at all in there [West Fork Millicoma], if you look at it. No sand either.

Jerry Phillips: That's why they keep dredging Coos Bay.

David Gould: Yeah. That's one of the loads of silt that come in to Coos Bay after the 1868 Fire.

Jerry Phillips: Exactly.

David Gould: That's what the old-timers talked about. They run around out there in boats and knew when it was coming in, too.

Bob Zybach: Well that looks like a plantation over there now.

David Gould: My daddy cleaned that off in the '60s. It had been thinned, they plowed it until the end of the field, right there. And this side creek comes in here; we called this Shake Creek. That's where we got a lot of shingles from, right here. This stream here is another slide come in, this all slid in there. Some of them come off the ridges up at the 2000 clear down here. Took the culvert out, and you can see the big rocks out in the river, and that would have been six feet high in the river there at one point.

Bob Zybach: Wow.

David Gould: Washed out here.

Bob Zybach: Is the island still in Gould Lake?

David Gould: Yeah it's there, but it isn't an island. You can see the rock. I've been down on the rock. This is about the other end of the property, 160 acres.

Bob Zybach: So we've been in it up through that whole draw back there?

David Gould: Oh yeah, just a little ways past the potato patch. We got to turn right up here somewhere.

Amber Ross: Do you see a place to turn around, Randy?

David Gould: We can go across the river I think, and go to the other side.

Amber Ross: Oh we can go across the river?

David Gould: Is that it there, Jerry?

Jerry Phillips: Yep.

David Gould: That looks like it. Yeah that's it there.

Randy Wiest: You turn here?

Bob Zybach: Now we've been passing some alder trees. Do those go back to when your grandparents were there or great grandparents?

David Gould: This whole thing was burned off in 1868.

Jerry Phillips: That's right. You see that in that picture.

David Gould: The [old 1880-1890] pictures show you that.

Bob Zybach: Okay but I mean these trees here then were allowed to come in or did they come in after . . .

Jerry Phillips: These all came in after '68.

Bob Zybach: Okay, but not after the Goulds left?

Jerry Phillips: No, no.

Bob Zybach: Okay so these were growing while the Goulds were here?

Jerry Phillips: They left about 1914.

Bob Zybach: Yep.

David Gould: Well the field was pretty well cleared. There was just a few openings when I it opened back up. If you look over there you see the alder stubs and how open that is? So I'm saying the alder die and then you get that, see? See what I'm saying? You got the opening there and it's all brush.

Bob Zybach: Yep.

David Gould: Then you see one of the big snags up there.

Randy Wiest: Yep. Are we actually gonna cross the creek?

David Gould: I think so, let me go down and see how deep it is.

Randy Wiest: Yeah, that'd be a good idea.

David Gould: I'm sure it'll be okay.

Bob Zybach: So there's no road into the old homestead? You got to cross the river here?

Jerry Phillips: That's right.

Bob Zybach: Wow.

Jerry Phillips: People used to cross it lower down. But they sold a little bit of timber over here, just a small amount of timber, a little thinning sale, and we put in a concrete crossing.

Bob Zybach: Oh, so there's an actual crossing built in to here?

Jerry Phillips: Yeah.

Bob Zybach: Oh okay.

Jerry Phillips: See that? Glae was willing to sell the place, the whole place, to a private buyer, but he demanded that they promise to never do any harvesting.

Bob Zybach: Wow.

Jerry Phillips: Well of course no one would agree to that, so then I managed to persuade him he should trade it to me, and we would trade some wood around there. We always had some good wood to trade. That's one of the assets we had - - we had about 5000 acres of scattered Common School lands, just out everywhere. So I could always offer one of those to whoever the interested people were. We always found a taker to those trades, so this was traded to International Paper, and then they traded it to us except for five acres, because they wanted to keep five acres. That's what they still have.

Bob Zybach: But this is the only way into the five acres?

Jerry Phillips: Yep. Yeah, it is. To the part they still own.

Bob Zybach: Does it look like we can make it?

Randy Wiest: Yep.

Amber Ross: Are we doing it?

Randy Wiest: Yep, you betcha. I mean why not? We've come this far right?

Amber Ross: Yeah we got this far. What's it like on the other side though?

Randy Wiest: It's good.

Amber Ross: Gravel?

Randy Wiest: Yeah.

David Gould: I put gravel on last time I was here, actually. It's all solid concrete along bedrock. There is a bump right in the middle of this here, right about there.

Randy Wiest: Hang on to your hat, just in case.

David Gould: I went across there with my daughter. Coming back out we went sideways about eight inches. Scared the piss out of me.

Bob Zybach: That's right you can't swim.

David Gould: Oh I can swim now, but I mean just not that summer.

Jerry Phillips: Might not be anymore apples in the apple trees.

Bob Zybach: I was hoping to get a picture of one. I can at least get the tree.

David Gould: There might be some up . . . but they're pretty high, is the trouble.

Amber Ross: This is cool. I haven't been over here.

David Gould: See they had fields way up where we're at and they had a ditch down through here that went to the mill with water. When we get further down you can see where the ditch was, they cut the road on it. See this is all growing back since the '60s when my dad was in here to clean it up.

Bob Zybach: The fir?

David Gould: Yeah, fir, alder, and everything else. This was all bare out until the edge of the river. Planted it back into grass.

Jerry Phillips: He was a man who was full of ideas. He was gonna rebuild the old house.

David Gould: There wasn't any old house to rebuild.

Jerry Phillips: Dave is a good son. Also full of ideas.

Bob Zybach: But you're not gonna rebuild the house are you?

David Gould: No. I had to watch my dad fighting with people and I knew it didn't work very good. I don't mean fight, I mean just argue and sometimes lose. Got the battle of the Trust Land now, and I can't get much headway. Jim Paul knows what I think, there's no doubt about that.

Jerry Phillips: Here's one apple tree right here.

Bob Zybach: Some right there.

David Gould: There's a little bit of land that they built on there.

Bob Zybach: Where's the rose bush at?

David Gould: It's right behind us.

Bob Zybach: Oh okay.

Randy Wiest: Continue on?

David Gould: We can go on across and we'll turn around up ahead and come back if you want.

Bob Zybach: It'd be good to get oriented where the house is and everything. A lot of silt built up on there. Looks like somebody's got a water line in there?

David Gould: They'll be down here in the summertime so I can build a fire in here, is what I do. Just enough water I can do that. It's going a long way up the hill, here.

Bob Zybach: Up the hill?

David Gould: Yeah.

Bob Zybach: Okay.

David Gould: We're going to show you where the logging was.

Jerry Phillips: We're still on the five acres.

Bob Zybach: Wow. So the five acres, does that include water rights?

David Gould: Yes. The water comes out right there. It's on the property.

Jerry Phillips: It starts on the river and comes this way.

David Gould: Probably going to have to turn around not too far past where we're at.

Randy Wiest: Okay. Continue on or stop?

David Gould: We're just a little bit more. This is pretty good spot here.

Randy Wiest: Good here?

David Gould: Yeah, the corner of the property's right over there, and the other corner's right down just by the water at the bottom on the left side over here, and comes back to the river.

Amber Ross: So Randy, up on one of the hills above us, in that clearcut is where the protesters chained themselves to the trees.

Randy Wiest: Oh right up here?

Amber Ross: Yeah.

Bob Zybach: I want to get a couple pictures here.

Amber Ross: Want to get out for a picture, Bob?

Bob Zybach: Well, what was here David? Was a house or anything up here? I'm just trying to get oriented.

David Gould: There was a building up here. I think it was just for, I don't know what it was for.

Bob Zybach: Okay, so . . .

David Gould: They actually plowed this up here too. I've got records of that.

Bob Zybach: Okay, so here's the old homestead, there's the barn.

David Gould: We're right up here.

Bob Zybach: We're over here. So we drove past it. So where was the orchard in relation to here?

David Gould: The buildings were in here, and I think over here, too.

Bob Zybach: Okay, so the orchard's here, and we're on this, is that a road right there? A skid trail? It looks like they've got this all logged off.

David Gould: No that's all burnt, that's what it was, they didn't do anything to that. They burnt this off several times while they were in here.

Bob Zybach: Where'd they get the wood for the houses and everything?

David Gould: Well there was some cedar in the bottom, but most of it was growing on Shake Creek, up here.

Jerry Phillips: He sawed the lumber in the sawmill here.

Bob Zybach: Yeah. Well I was just thinking on the picture . . . it's fairly bare up through here, and I was thinking maybe that's where they got the logs for the sawmill.

David Gould: No that was just in the burn. Like this, see it was open, there's no snags in here, this was all open the same thing over there. We're actually in a stream meander here, you can't really notice the stream went up around here that's why its high right there. A long time ago it was a stream meander. If you looked, there's actually river gravel in this hill up here I've looked at. And you go on up the river and you have a lot of this stream meandering around and big, big bends and they were asking me how come the gradient was so steep. It was hard for the fish to find us and that's the main reason, because of the meander's would break out. When it broke through the meanders, you see them on the maps.

Bob Zybach: What broke through, like slides?

David Gould: No they just broke through here after one took off. I can show you several of them in Elk Creek. There's a good example up there.

Jerry Phillips: Oxbows.

Bob Zybach: So we're over in here, we're gonna come back down around on the return. Can you tell me when we get near the homesite?

David Gould: Yeah, we're going right through it.

Bob Zybach: Okay, yeah I wanted to get a reading there and a couple photos. That and the orchard.

David Gould: Well, they logged this unit here, so it was Elkhorn Ranch original property here. It was a 40-acre piece that went up here -- they actually got a few of them up here -- that's why they needed access.

Bob Zybach: How come they didn't take out some of these bigger trees?

David Gould: You mean now? Well they grew back after they were here.

Bob Zybach: No I mean for the sale.

David Gould: The sale stopped at the property line out there.

Bob Zybach: Okay, so this is on your five acres then?

David Gould: Yeah, when they logged this they had a tail-hold tied to two of these big trees behind us. They did it so it didn't kill them, I told them they could go

ahead and do it. They run a skyline up through here. This was actually kind of a road up here we didn't have to do too much work to it. My dad wanted to build a house right on the point of the claim in here. It never happened. This belongs to my daughter now. She doesn't know what's going to happen to it either.

Randy Wiest: David I think your doors open.

David Gould: Okay.

Bob Zybach: So the five acres is in your daughter's name now?

David Gould: Yeah. I see these big trees they grew back after the fire. Those trees are about the same size as a lot of the snags right around here.

Bob Zybach: Yeah I was curious about that on the ages on the diameters.

David Gould: I've been reading some of that stuff you've got there.

Randy Wiest: Better angle here.

Amber Ross: Yeah that's a hard angle.

David Gould: That's got some river gravel on it. No point in seeing it today.

Bob Zybach: Well it seems to me on this spawning gravel thing that it keeps washing out.

David Gould: Yeah, it just goes.

Bob Zybach: Then what happens to the fish?

David Gould: Well they've got to wait for the next one. Like Jake [Bob Jacobson] was saying, they spawn in the gravel that's up on the sides.

Bob Zybach: Oh.

David Gould: 'Cause there's no gravel in the bottom. But they got to do it [spawn] when the water's there; see when there's the high water, and they got to be done by the time the water goes down. I think he said they need two weeks, I can't remember. We've just come off the beds there with solid rock. The property goes right about 20 feet from us, right out to the river. I wish he would have done it differently, but he did what he wanted to. Now the bridge would have been back over in front of us.

Bob Zybach: The bridge? Now that's the 70-foot span one?

David Gould: Yeah.

Bob Zybach: Okay. I'd like to take a picture of that and then the orchard's down next isn't it?

David Gould: Yeah.

Bob Zybach: Okay.

Amber Ross: So you want to walk up there?

Bob Zybach: Yes, please. Now this road here, does that lead down to where the bridge was?

David Gould: The bridge should have been right . . . probably right here somewhere.

Bob Zybach: Okay. How about that road behind us there, where's that go?

David Gould: That goes to another crossing we don't use anymore.

Bob Zybach: Okay.

David Gould: The barn used to be right up here and the road was to put hay in the barn. Look behind us and you can see it.

Bob Zybach: Okay so this is where the barn was?

David Gould: Yeah. See that little bench here? That's how we'd eventually get the hay in the barn. Top of the barn.

Bob Zybach: Up through there?

David Gould: Yeah.

Bob Zybach: Okay.

David Gould: What'd you do break something off?

Randy Wiest: The little antennae came off.

David Gould: Oh.

David Gould: I've got a lot of sentimental value here. Nobody else has. I can't believe that they're not going to log this thing. Crazy.

Jerry Phillips: It's all politics. It's not science.

David Gould: It's not history or anything.

Jerry Phillips: No, it's not even money. It's all politics.

David Gould: The reason why this is like it is, is because this is kind of like an alluvial fan out here and a little further up it's actually boggy up there. And you dig down in there, it's a lot of gravel in it too. I was telling him the barn was right here and that little bench up there is how they got up to get in the loft of the barn.

Randy Wiest: Oh is that right?

David Gould: Yeah they cut hay here and put it in the barn.

Randy Wiest: So the foundations and everything are gone?

David Gould: Everything's gone, yeah.

Randy Wiest: It's gone?

David Gould: Well it was all set on cedar blocks, or it might have been set on a piece of rock or something.

Randy Wiest: Okay.

David Gould: It was all built on cedar, red cedar, but then after they left the house burned down, people would come and just take pieces of the building part and burn them for firewood.

Jerry Phillips: The house was here until 1945.

Randy Wiest: Is that right?

Jerry Phillips: Then some hunters got to messing around, they'd built a fire and burnt the house down.

David Gould: Chimney fire. Some of the relatives had just come over the hill when they seen this thing go up.

Randy Wiest: Yeah. What a shame.

David Gould: Yeah.

Randy Wiest: We have the same issue on our side.

David Gould: But anyway, there's a lot of things happened here at one time. First time I come in here it was still part of the barn. It was laying down but sticking up 10 feet or so and a couple of the sheds were knocked down and one little building over there they built for a shelter for trappers and stuff, and my grandad packed the stove down in here. He packed that in when he was about 70 years old, so he could get me in here I guess. Ron McCulloch saw him up on the trail when he was coming in and offered to help him, but he didn't want much help.

Randy Wiest: Pretty productive farm ground here.

Jerry Phillips: Grows good hay.

Randy Wiest: Oh I imagine.

Jerry Phillips: Potatoes.

David Gould: Just about anything you wanted, with water.

Jerry Phillips: Raspberries.

David Gould: Let's see, I got to get some pictures out of here so we can see what we're talking about.

Amber Ross: He headed down towards the apple trees.

Randy Wiest: Should we head down there and pick him up?

Amber Ross: Probably.

Randy Wiest: Okay. He's down there. I see him, he's quite a ways down there.

David Gould: Here's a picture of my great-great-grandmother.

Amber Ross: What's her name?

David Gould: Jane Gould.

Amber Ross: Jane Gould.

David Gould: Yep, her husband died after they came across the plains in [18]62. He died after about seven months. They'd been to this mill, and he was working there. She worked there and married a guy at the mill a little later and then she had three or four more children.

Amber Ross: Wow.

David Gould: So my grandparents, his dad had half-brothers. This is the first photograph I actually remember of her when she was a little younger [photo of the mill over the stream]. But that thing was on top of the water there. I think they probably used that to flush the sawdust out for one thing.

Bob Zybach: David, can I get a picture of you guys with one of these apple trees here?

David Gould: Oh I guess.

Bob Zybach: I got to have at least one of you on the old Gould homestead. That's the road right there, isn't it? There's all kinds of elk crap all through here.

Randy Wiest: You want me to back out of the way?

Amber Ross: His doors open.

Randy Wiest: I know.

Amber Ross: That apple trees got a hole in it.

Randy Wiest: Somebody put some flagging tape on top of that apple tree.

Jerry Phillips: Bear damage.

Randy Wiest: Is that what that is?

Jerry Phillips: Probably [damage was from when the house burned. DGG].

David Gould: I'm trying to find pictures of the house here.

Bob Zybach: . . . one of them from the distance there and I think I got it covered pretty good. Let's see here.

Bob Zybach: We're going to take a lunch break here?

Randy Wiest: You want to take a lunch break here?

Bob Zybach: It doesn't matter to me. It's up to you guys. Should we take a lunch break here David?

David Gould: I don't care. Whatever you want to do. I've got some grub.

Randy Wiest: We could pull up here maybe. This little cover of trees up here in front of us if you want to get out.

David Gould: Oh there's the picture. There's the mill right there.

Bob Zybach: There's the apple orchard. And the house is right here?

David Gould: I think the house was from right here to right here.

Bob Zybach: Oh, okay good, and that's where we stopped.

David Gould: There's the barn there.

Bob Zybach: Okay and there's where they loaded the hay.

David Gould: Yeah, that was up on the bank and this is all the sawmill and everything.

Bob Zybach: Wow.

David Gould: They had a water sawmill and then they had a lathe and a band saw and a washing machine all driven by water. George did all the washing with it.

Amber Ross: So none of the material from the building is left?

David Gould: Pardon?

Amber Ross: None of the material from the buildings is left onsite?

David Gould: No, it's all been gone. I had a lot of pictures of this, inside of the house, someplace. He did the furniture and everything on site.

Amber Ross: Wow.

Bob Zybach: He had a lathe, he'd turn stuff on.

Randy Wiest: I'll be darned.

David Gould: Yep. See the elk horns there? And the cabinet he built?

Bob Zybach: The cabinet, too? He was an amazing person.

Jerry Phillips: He was.

David Gould: He was a carpenter, had his dad's tools.

Bob Zybach: He was a carpenter and a mechanic and did home construction; an orchardist.

David Gould: He traded the elk meat or deer meat or something to the mill in town, for stuff they weren't using anymore, and had to build a lot of the stuff out of the wood up here. They actually had two mills, one was a round saw and one was like an up and down saw.

Bob Zybach: Oh, two men.

David Gould: I don't think it was two men -- it was driven by water power.

Bob Zybach: Oh wow.

David Gould: Water power, because there was a stream and a chute up there that come in high enough to run a water wheel.

Amber Ross: Did you get all the pictures you wanted, Bob?

David Gould: This right here was part of the ditch for the water to come in high enough to run a water wheel. They knocked it down when they came through. It used to be a hole on this side.

Bob Zybach: I wanted to get picture of the homesite and accidentally got one when he showed me where the home was. And now I'm good. We got the bridge, the apple orchard, we got the truck in a couple pictures for scale.

Amber Ross: Okay.

David Gould: There's quite a few places out here for people to camp if they want.

Bob Zybach: So you don't care if people come and camp on your property?

David Gould: No, it's easier to let them do it than try to fight it.

Amber Ross: Yeah.

David Gould: Most of them clean up pretty good and I put those logs in there cause when I first planted the grass people kept trying to go in and squirrel around and tear it up. I put a couple signs there and it kind of kept them out. Now I don't think they could hurt it so bad.

Bob Zybach: Between Jerry's book and Rickard's book I've always been wanting to go to that place, so it's kind of nice to actually visit, and what's really nice is it's way different than I expected. I didn't expect we'd have to cross the river or I didn't know the bridge was right there. I thought it was closer to Allegany.

Tape 6-A End. 47:43

Tape 6-B. Interview with Jerry Phillips and David Gould by Bob Zybach, with Amber Ross and Randy Wiest while touring the Elliott State Forest on November 8, 2017.

Part 4. Elkhorn Lunch Break to Gould's Lake

Jerry Phillips: I think once you have the brush thick like that, alder can't get in there.

Bob Zybach: Oh. There's some really solid bands of alder right along -- or salmonberry -- right along the river, along the Alsea, and that doesn't have any trees in it at all.

Jerry Phillips: They can't invade that.

Bob Zybach: So now that the alder have died back there and salmonberry's come in, nothing's going to follow in unless they . . .

Jerry Phillips: That's true.

Bob Zybach: . . . get rid of the salmonberry.

Jerry Phillips: Thimbleberry, the salmonberry, that's a pretty impenetrable mix for any conifer, anyway.

David Gould: So far it breaks down in the soil pretty good too, though. It makes pretty good soil in there.

Jerry Phillips: Especially the Douglas fir because they require sunlight to hit the ground.

Bob Zybach: Yup.

Jerry Phillips: You might get a little spruce or a cedar that might start again.

Randy Wiest: Which way do we want to . . .

David Gould: Left I think.

Randy Wiest: Left?

David Gould: Yup. If we go right, the road goes there for a ways, and we don't want to.

Amber Ross: Yeah.

David Gould: I fixed it up pretty good up that way I think along the road. Lots of rock.

Bob Zybach: What do they call those people from the 1880s that could do all those different things? They'd have people that do wallpaper, and poetry writing,

and horse racing, and they had a name for them. It sounds like your great grandfather was one of those people.

Jerry Phillips: Yeah, like “millennials,” something like that but, that's not the right word.

Bob Zybach: Yeah, it was in the late 1800s that's where . . . kind of a “man for all seasons” kind of approach.

Jerry Phillips: That's right, jack of all trades.

Bob Zybach: Yeah, but there's a word for the people that were really accomplished at several different skills. They called them a certain . . . “Renaissance!”

Jerry Phillips: That's right.

Bob Zybach: A renaissance person.

Jerry Phillips: That's the right word.

Bob Zybach: Yup.

David Gould: Well, in the summertime there's no water. It all goes underground there. That's what makes it bad for the fish there.

Bob Zybach: It's just seasonal?

David Gould: Yeah, well the water goes underneath the slide. Until that filled up they couldn't get through.

Bob Zybach: Now, are we headed towards the lake next?

David Gould: Yeah.

Bob Zybach: Okay.

Stop #B-10. 2:33 Elkhorn Ranch Lunch Break. No photos.

Randy Wiest: What do we want to do for lunch? Do we want to stop and eat, or just eat on the way?

Bob Zybach: I'm good with anything, except I got my lunch in the back so if we want to eat on the way I need to make a quick stop to get it.

Randy Wiest: Okay.

Randy Wiest: Pull up here to the place where we can get out.

Amber Ross: Pick one of the campgrounds or something?

Randy Wiest: Yeah.

Amber Ross: Or, campsites.

David Gould: Once you get a big rainstorm, you'll have water coming off this rock here.

Bob Zybach: Wow.

David Gould: Seems like it just penetrates that and comes off these rock faces like this. I'm talking about the specific fill of six-inch clay, you know?

Bob Zybach: That was amazing that they came here and that they prospered, both.

David Gould: Well, they had the place for the cattle and they had lots of deer.

Bob Zybach: Yeah.

Jerry Phillips: And they never owned a single acre of ground when they were here. After they moved down to Allegany, someone said "you might as well file on the place. It might be worth something someday." So they did.

David Gould: They filed on one day and sold it the next day. Stull is the one that bought it; guy down the river here.

Bob Zybach: Yeah.

Jerry Phillips: When I came here it was 65 years ago, it was owned by John Queen. Custodial guy down at the high school. He worked summertime for the Coos Fire Patrol.

Bob Zybach: And during the school year he was a custodian?

Jerry Phillips: Yup.

Bob Zybach: Wow.

Jerry Phillips: He offered it for sale. He offered it to the state, and to Glae.

Bob Zybach: Yeah.

David Gould: That's a big alluvial fan you'll find there, too.

Jerry Phillips: Glae found out what we offered, and so he bid a little more and he got it.

Randy Wiest: Maybe this spot here is flat enough?

Bob Zybach: Got your lunch back there too, David?

David Gould: No, must have to let me out I guess.

Bob Zybach: Oh, well I can get out on this side.

David Gould: Okay. I'll go.

Bob Zybach: The camera is . . . I'm more nimble than you.

David Gould: Not going to drink that, huh?

Amber Ross: That rain is just constant, isn't it?

Bob Zybach: It is. Makes me kind of nostalgic. I don't think I need a . . .

David Gould: . . . then the timber coming out of the forest, then going into the river --

Bob Zybach: Yup.

David Gould: I've got it right here. Here it is here.

Bob Zybach: David, some of those photos that you've got there, you gave me copies that are on paper, and then I scanned those, but if I could at some point get together with you and scan some of the original photos we can get better copies.

David Gould: Okay. Yeah. See this here? This came out of the timber sale, down here. Came out in the river, and this is following on down the river. Here it is. There, see they put an obstruction there. There it is, right there. Fish and Wildlife people did, and here's where we stopped, you know? That's going to be your spawning gravel for a long time. It works down, but that's what that's all about.

Bob Zybach: Jerry, you had photographs from all the landslides from '61 to about '82. I wonder if they still got those. Were they still there when you retired?

Jerry Phillips: I don't know.

Bob Zybach: Jim Paul says they have about 40 boxes of records that they have to go through and organize. I'm just curious, I'm hoping to find a lot of the things on that list there that they were able to keep.

Jerry Phillips: I hope so too.

Bob Zybach: Too much of that stuff got thrown away after people left or retired, or got borrowed and not returned.

Jerry Phillips: Yeah. That's what happens.

Bob Zybach: Had my lunch packed by Walmart this morning.

David Gould: What?

Bob Zybach: Got my lunch packed by Walmart. Did you bring any food?

David Gould: No, I just ate before we started.

Bob Zybach: You want a banana?

David Gould: No, I'm okay.

Bob Zybach: I can't eat all this. Last time I didn't even eat any lunch -- or half a sandwich?

David Gould: No.

Bob Zybach: Are you sure?

David Gould: Thank you, no. I might eat the banana. I'm half gorilla. That's why you offered me a banana, huh? Okay.

David Gould: . . . when you're cutting, they [limbs and down trees] try and pull you.

Bob Zybach: Well, in the winter though, if you got ice storm or snow break, the snags don't come down, just limbs and tops. Jerry, the back side of those pages there, I've just recycled them. I think those are from an old oral history I was doing.

Jerry Phillips: Yeah, I was just looking at them.

David Gould: Well, you got me going pretty good. They kind of scared me. I thought we were going to have all the woods on fire.

Bob Zybach: Do you want that?

David Gould: No.

Bob Zybach: Are you sure?

David Gould: Yep.

Bob Zybach: I can't eat it.

David Gould: Here is where we got to come up here and plow more. Get ahead of that hill.

Bob Zybach: Wow.

Amber Ross: I know.

David Gould: There's one of the old snags over there, all on that hillside.

Bob Zybach: Well, that was interesting. That was quite a bit different than what I imagined.

David Gould: Well, that came in and all the water's a bit stagnant. They made it a comfortable place to live.

Bob Zybach: Amber, when you did the archeological reconnaissance out here did you register any of the sites, or just kind of document them and know they're there?

Amber Ross: I'd have to ask our archeologist about that. There was a full report done.

Bob Zybach: Oh, good.

Amber Ross: We didn't set foot onto that property. We know we didn't because it was private. It wasn't part of the state's property so, I mean, we didn't actually look at it.

Bob Zybach: Okay. That seemed like it'd be a wonderful project for a historical archeology class.

Amber Ross: Yeah. Well, and then the campsite areas we surveyed a little bit, but they're really disturbed.

Bob Zybach: That's what I forgot back there. What was the water source?

David Gould: I don't know, but it would have gotten out that stream right there I think.

Bob Zybach: Okay. It was just . . . there wasn't a well or a spring?

David Gould: No, there was no well. I don't think they even had water in the house. It was all . . .

Bob Zybach: Do you know where the garbage dump is there?

David Gould: No.

Bob Zybach: Those things are a goldmine sometimes. Well, people would toss bottles, things like that.

David Gould: I'm not sure about that. Guess if they can't make it, wouldn't have it.

Bob Zybach: Well they had Mason jars back then didn't they?

David Gould: Yeah. Also maybe they just don't . . . they just didn't put it in a bag. They had a big smokehouse.

Bob Zybach: Oh.

David Gould: You see these big trees and you think they're older than that, but they're not.

Bob Zybach: Well, these trees here, like this one on the left here, that's 1868?

Jerry Phillips: It is.

David Gould: Yeah.

Jerry Phillips: Again, see, you can tell from the bark.

Randy Wiest: Do we want to go to the right here?

David Gould: You can go any way you want here.

Randy Wiest: Okay, do we have a preference?

Jerry Phillips: You can go to the right, I think.

Amber Ross: Stay right, there would be less mud holes.

Randy Wiest: Okay.

Stop #B-12. 14:53 CCC Fire Patrol Trail to Beaver Creek Old-Growth. No photos.

Amber Ross: That's the campsites coming.

Randy Wiest: Okay.

David Gould: I've got to fix that road up through there, yeah. This is where the trail come up through here, so they built the road right in the trail.

Bob Zybach: This is the old trail?

David Gould: Yeah. They built it for the fire patrol. 1930s or whenever it was.

Jerry Phillips: The phone line was right along here.

David Gould: Pardon?

Jerry Phillips: The phone line was right along here, too.

David Gould: Yeah. They took out the wire in here. I don't know what happened to the wire up on the top, too. Disappeared somehow.

Bob Zybach: The phone line they put in on the CCCs to the lookouts, did that follow the same line that George Gould put in?

David Gould: No, that came up the river I think. That may be just part of it going up the hill there, I don't know. Maybe that's where the wire went. Maybe they took some of it. I know they had to pack it up somewhere.

Jerry Phillips: They came up to the Stulls on up there.

Bob Zybach: For the 3-C's phone line?

David Gould: I know the original wires went to Allegany came up Kentuck and came around there, because we ran into that over there and at the trail there also. They didn't just start building roads in this country, they started building trails. I got a lot of that history down in San Jose where my grandparents came from. *As Ted Sees It* (Tourtillott 1961) tells all about that.

Bob Zybach: Well, it seemed like all these roads we're following, used to follow pack trails, used to follow foot trails. It seems like they're all riparian or ridgeline.

David Gould: The ridgetop went up and down – too steep to make grade.

Jerry Phillips: Well, the elk trails turn into foot trails. Foot trails turn into wagon trails. Wagon trails into county roads.

Bob Zybach: Ah-ha.

David Gould: State came in and made their own roads with easy grades for trucks.

Bob Zybach: Well the roads the 3-Cs put in, were those just automatically state roads rather than county?

David Gould: They were just roads.

Bob Zybach: I mean, who was the owner of them?

Jerry Phillips: Well, I'm not sure because when I came to work here in '52 . . .

Bob Zybach: Yeah.

Jerry Phillips: . . . it was at the time the Coos Fire Patrol was trying to maintain those as fire roads; all the old CC roads, they were on BLM and they were on private land, and whatnot. They had two tractors, they set those Cats out in the spring and spent the whole summer over these old CC roads.

Bob Zybach: Did those roads belong to the county after they were built?

Jerry Phillips: I never heard anything; who actually owned them. No one maintained them unless the fire patrol did. Now, they were crossing county owned land, which they often were -- that didn't require any easement. They just built them.

David Gould: Look above the water over there on the inside curve. There is where the spawning gravel is, above the water.

Bob Zybach: The [streamside] gravel, is that what you're pointing out?

David Gould: Yeah. There is gravel in the channel on the bottom of the pools. No sand, either.

Bob Zybach: Ah-ha, but it's not very much gravel that we've seen anywhere.

David Gould: No, there's not much in here.

Jerry Phillips: That's how it's always been.

Bob Zybach: Wow.

David Gould: It goes down the water when it's full, as a freshet.

Bob Zybach: How could so many thousands of fish be spawning if there's [no gravel]?

David Gould: Well, they spawn in the upper river and Elk Creek. The smaller streams have gravel above here.

Jerry Phillips: On the tributaries. To the west.

Randy Wiest: Left?

Jerry Phillips: Left.

Jerry Phillips: This bridge [2300 bridge at 8100] had a problem so they put it up higher next time.

David Gould: Glad we got the road fixed when we did. Had to fill in some of the stuff with four inch. Be able to back up here.

Jerry Phillips: This part of that same road is on Beaver Creek.

David Gould: You got a 4% grade or a 6% grade, or something? You can haul logs on it I know.

Jerry Phillips: I think we planned it for seven. It's whatever the roads . . . the trucks were able to run adverse loads on them.

David Gould: It needs maintenance here. This bit of the road here, too. [No log hauls so no money for maintenance on the 2300. DGG.]

Jerry Phillips: We had one of the roads that ran an adverse of nine percent.

Bob Zybach: Wow.

Jerry Phillips: Coming out of Elk Creek [9300].

Bob Zybach: Now Elk Creek is where the Gould Lake is, isn't it?

Jerry Phillips: It is, it is.

David Gould: Yeah. We need to go down here.

Jerry Phillips: It's interesting if . . . 65 years ago it was a nice little lake. Now it's all totally gone.

Bob Zybach: Is that right? Wow, but filled in with sediment?

Jerry Phillips: Yeah, and vegetation. Just it never was deep, and a landslide lake.

David Gould: Some of the landslide eroded and the water level dropped. The lake also collected sand from the stream above.

Bob Zybach: Well, the lake had fish in it, didn't it?

David Gould: Oh yeah. [After the state started logging the sediment filled it in about 20 years. DGG]

Bob Zybach: I think one of those stories -- I wasn't too clear if it was Gould Lake or Loon Lake -- but they caught like 160 fish out of it or something.

David Gould: That's Gould Lake, there was a lot of fish in there. I never got to go fishing there, either.

Bob Zybach: We had that happen in Lincoln County where you had the Slide Lake coming in, create a large, about 90-acre slide, created what we called Slide Lake, and then about three years later I took my boat up there and it was just loaded with large fish that quick.

Randy Wiest: I recently fished at the head of Slide Lake.

Jerry Phillips: Slide Lake?

Randy Wiest: Yup.

Bob Zybach: I heard that get formed. That formed the day before Christmas that year. They called it Ayers Lake for a while, after Ray Ayers. They blamed it on the clearcut logging, but what had happened was it was starting to go and they went in there and clearcut to get the trees out before they slid off the hill. And then when the slide went, we were planting trees and the loggers were shut down. We just heard a giant boom, and we were all trying to figure out what happened, and then we found out after vacation when the loggers went back there all their stuff was isolated [on the other side of the slide]. All the trees planted on it, my crews planted it.

Randy Wiest: Is that right?

Bob Zybach: That was pretty easy planting.

Randy Wiest: I used to hike in there as a kid, high school fishing quite a bit.

Bob Zybach: I took my boat in there and left it, and then somebody else took it, so.

Randy Wiest: Yeah, I remember there was a boat back in there. We never did use it but I remember seeing a boat back in there.

Bob Zybach: I had a 14-foot aluminum boat.

Randy Wiest: Yeah. We packed a little canoe in there.

Bob Zybach: Yeah. We're talking about the same Slide Lake in Lincoln County right?

Randy Wiest: Yup.

Bob Zybach: Okay. Yup. It sounded like a supersonic jet went right over. It went kaboom, and we were like . . . there was a reverberation and everybody -- it was pretty clear -- we thought somebody had been up there blowing up dynamite or something.

David Gould: I heard something on the Slide Lake, that something happened, I just didn't know what it was.

Jerry Phillips: Yeah.

David Gould: The next year.

Bob Zybach: That was the same with us. In fact, it was the next year when the guys came back from Christmas break.

David Gould: This was a big slide area here. It's come down pretty often. I bet Jerry had fun laying the road out [2300 Road switchbacks].

Bob Zybach: Did you lay this road out Jerry?

Jerry Phillips: Yup.

Bob Zybach: Did you have fun?

Jerry Phillips: Sure.

David Gould: He had to walk in a ways.

Bob Zybach: What year did this road go in?

Jerry Phillips: We sold the sale in '58, built the mainline road in '59, and then logged it all off in 1960.

Bob Zybach: Before the Columbus Day Storm even?

Jerry Phillips: Yup.

Bob Zybach: Wow.

Jerry Phillips: There's not a switchback in the whole road.

Bob Zybach: Wow.

Jerry Phillips: Big sale. It was like 220 acres, and we had allowed them to cat log it. We would never do that anymore, but we were new to the market. Loggers all knew how to deal with BLM, but we were a new marketer.

Bob Zybach: Yeah.

Jerry Phillips: We tried to be generous in the conditions of the contract. We wouldn't be . . . we sold it as a scale sale for one thing, not on the cruise. They would log without any confidence, since we were new to cruising.

Bob Zybach: Yeah.

Jerry Phillips: We sold it with a scaling platform put in out to the road, where it's a state highway. Paid a scaler, had to Cat log most of it.

David Gould: Spent all your time designing this road over here. Didn't have time for getting there.

Jerry Phillips: The negative thing was that we still had those, still thought we could aerial seed successfully. We got this off-site seed up from Washington.

Bob Zybach: That was used for this area here too?

Jerry Phillips: That's right. This area right here.

Jerry Phillips: It didn't work out really well. It was poor quality fir seed, from the Quinalt area.

Bob Zybach: They say Steilacoom, or something.

Jerry Phillips: That's right.

Bob Zybach: This isn't the same sale we came in from the other side on is it?

Jerry Phillips: Same seed, probably.

Bob Zybach: Okay.

Amber Ross: We're getting close to the 1000 road.

Bob Zybach: Okay. Let's make a mark for that.

Amber Ross: Yeah, and then we're going to take the 9000 this way.

Jerry Phillips: Everybody was choosing seed by seed zones.

Bob Zybach: Uh-huh. One thing I was hoping to see today, unless it's on the west slope, is the progeny test sites.

Jerry Phillips: That's right. We have three.

Bob Zybach: Yeah.

Jerry Phillips: We're part of a co-op, and International Paper, and BLM, and ourselves, and there were test sites on all those ownerships.

Bob Zybach: Uh-huh (affirmative).

Jerry Phillips: Then all the . . . actual plantations then went up to St. Paul after the seedlings had grown and the seed bearing progeny trees.

Bob Zybach: They weren't grown here on the forest?

Jerry Phillips: No.

Bob Zybach: Okay.

Jerry Phillips: They were all grown to a seed processing plant. That may have been over in Elkton for the extraction --seed -- then they were all grown up at St. Paul.

Bob Zybach: I thought there was three test sites on the forest?

Jerry Phillips: There are.

Bob Zybach: Okay, so --

Jerry Phillips: Those are the . . . I guess bigger trees in here. These are some genuine old-growth here.

Bob Zybach: You're saying old-growth but they go back to --

Jerry Phillips: These are . . .

Bob Zybach: Oh, there are some big trees.

Jerry Phillips: . . . go back to 1750.

Bob Zybach: Okay.

Jerry Phillips: This is genuine old-growth here. We just left it here just to look at it.

David Gould: Now, this grew up after the 1840 fire, or what?

Jerry Phillips: The 1840 fire as far as we knew was all in the southeast part of the forest, Cedar Creek and Owl Creek, and Salander Creek. These are all like 1750.

Bob Zybach: Wow.

Jerry Phillips: Very fine timber.

Bob Zybach: How come this didn't get logged?

Jerry Phillips: We just like to look at it.

David Gould: They didn't want to log it, just keep it to enjoy it.

Bob Zybach: Are we on Jerry's Reserve right here?

Jerry Phillips: No.

David Gould: No. This is one of the set-asides.

Bob Zybach: Okay.

Jerry Phillips: This is the same age, but it's just a small parcel.

Bob Zybach: Wow.

Jerry Phillips: Real nice stuff.

Amber Ross: We're kind of close to there. I think it's that square down there [on the GIS map].

Bob Zybach: Uh-huh. Yeah, I know it's that 40 there. We're there where the red dot is?

Amber Ross: Yup.

Bob Zybach: Wow, so that's right along the --

Jerry Phillips: -- head of Beaver Creek.

Amber Ross: Randy, we're going to pop out on the 1000 for a short distance.

Randy Wiest: Okay, go left?

David Goulds: Turn left here.

Amber Ross: Yeah.

Randy Wiest: Okay.

Bob Zybach: I didn't realize that there's still another patch of old-growth through here.

Amber Ross: I think you might be above the log trucks.

Randy Wiest: Okay.

Amber Ross: But you never know.

Randy Wiest: You never know. We'll find out.

David Gould: Yeah. This is the road we can take to Allegany.

Jerry Phillips: This is one of all the waterholes around here. Do chain checks?

Randy Wiess: Oh yeah?

Amber Ross: Yeah, still some water in it.

Jerry Phillips: Yup.

Amber Ross: Is that rain or just . . . ?

Jerry Phillips: Yeah, just a spring.

David Gould: Wasn't some of this timber in here a little bigger when you were logging?

Randy Wiest: 1000 over here?

David Gould: Here, you want this stuff bigger in here?

Jerry Phillips: This half section here is where . . . Board of forestry ownership.

Jerry Phillips: The half sitting right in front of us.

Bob Zybach: Okay.

Jerry Phillips: The head of Silver Creek.

Bob Zybach: Jerry, we just came by a spring there. Can we mark that spring on the map?

Jerry Phillips: Pardon?

Randy Wiest: You want me to go back to it?

Bob Zybach: I think we're close enough.

Randy Wiest: Okay.

Bob Zybach: It's too much trouble really to get out, but I wanted to get the springs marked to kind of get them --

Randy Wiest: I can turn around pretty easily and go back if you want.

Bob Zybach: Well, it --

Amber Ross: The waterholes should be labeled on these maps.

Bob Zybach: Okay, let's see. One of the maps . . .

Amber Ross: Hey Randy, our truck just sprung a leak.

Randy Wiest: It did?

Amber Ross: Yeah.

Randy Wiest: I'll be darned. It must be . . . yeah, from the new window.

Amber Ross: Yeah. If you . . .

Bob Zybach: Got this map there. I thought I had it down in there.

Amber Ross: You should. That's my copy.

Bob Zybach: Okay, yeah. We don't want . . . Let's see.

Amber Ross: There, these are more copies but I highlighted through these. So I don't really see that waterhole there.

Bob Zybach: Here it is.

Amber Ross: That waterhole is not labeled.

Bob Zybach: Well, we can just --

Amber Ross: But I can mark it.

Bob Zybach: Okay, good. There's the map. There's that. Not a very good functioning office space here.

David Gould: I should have brought my car, and we could have used that, too.

Bob Zybach: There we go.

Amber Ross: Alright.

Randy Wiest: Good?

Bob Zybach: Yep.

Stop #B-13. 34:06 Big Saddle (2) to Gould's Lake. Photos (8): 0971; 0972; 0973; 0974; 0975; 0976; 0977; 0978

Randy Wiest: Okay. That's a big roundabout.

Jerry Phillips: Big Saddle.

David Gould: I don't see any truck hauling in there.

Jerry Phillips: Big Saddle.

Bob Zybach: Big Saddle.

Jerry Phillips: Then south section, we logged all of that in 1960. It's all old-growth. Then that's all grown back, then we went to log it again, and then somebody found a bird in there.

Amber Ross: Yeah, we're at the 10-Mile [road marker]. We should be good on log trucks.

Randy Wiest: Okay. It doesn't look like they've been driving on this.

Amber Ross: It doesn't.

Randy Wiest: Nope.

Amber Ross: Okay. I think they're from the seven and a half mile to the south.

Bob Zybach: What's this ridgeline called through here?

Jerry Phillips: Elk Ridge. Elk Ridge.

David Gould: This is Elk Creek down here [9000].

Jerry Phillips: This is our original main road [1000].

David Gould: The West Fork's on this side. The divide is here.

Bob Zybach: What are the two creeks on the . . . ?

David Gould: I don't know. One of them's Beaver Creek and Trout Creek and now Elk Creek is the one we are on now.

Amber Ross: We're going to take the next major left.

David Gould: Okay.

Randy Wiest: Next major left, okay.

David Gould: Do you see all this shale in the bank here?

Amber Ross: Could be a gate on it.

Bob Zybach: Yup.

David Gould: That's on top of the sandstone. That's what makes the loose spawning gravel on it that comes off here and goes on down to the river.

Bob Zybach: So it's the shale that's forming the spawning gravel, not the sandstone?

David Gould: No, It's the sandstone from the slides.

Randy Wiest: Yup, this is our major left.

Jerry Phillips: This is Elk Creek. We're down Elk Creek.

Bob Zybach: Now we're heading over into the Elk Creek drainage right at this point?

David Gould: Yeah, this is it.

Amber Ross: On the 9000 Road.

Bob Zybach: How come the gate's back there? When they're logging or something they lock them up?

Amber Ross: No, that was from the protestors. All of the interior of the forest was gated out.

Bob Zybach: Wow.

David Gould: They put one down there at Elkhorn, where you go into the Elkhorn. They had them waiting on them when they did that. The judge said they couldn't go in there or hang around, so they put in gates to keep them out. Spent a lot of money and it just went down the drain. [They put gates in to restrict protester access to the logging sites. A judge said it was against the law to exclude the public, so the state could not lock the gates. DGG]

Amber Ross: Yeah, so this is the 2000 where we started.

Bob Zybach: Ah-ha.

Amber Ross: This is the 1000. Any of these interior drainages were all gated, so that's where the protestors were.

Bob Zybach: Is that when the signs came down too, with the protestors here, or was that . . . ?

Amber Ross: No, the signs came down because we have no longer a managed forest.

Bob Zybach: Ah.

Jerry Phillips: All this timber on the left . . .

Bob Zybach: Another deer.

Randy Wiest: Another one, that's almost the one we saw earlier.

Amber Ross: Yeah, he might have just hopped up the hill.

Randy Wiest: Yeah, wherever.

Bob Zybach: This one looked a little bit larger. Of course, my eyesight's going so . . .

Jerry Phillips: All this timber on the left, all along here we thought was so nice looking we didn't want to cut it. We just wanted to look at it.

Amber Ross: Straight trees!

Jerry Phillips: It's now about 130, 140 years old. Very high quality.

Bob Zybach: Would you sell it today?

Jerry Phillips: Probably, yes.

Bob Zybach: It's worth a whole lot more.

David Gould: According to the environmentalists.

Bob Zybach: Well, they'd say it's worth so much you can't afford to cut it.

Jerry Phillips: Almost certainly it's full of birds.

Bob Zybach: Yeah.

Amber Ross: When you leave the trees, you leave the habitat.

David Gould: People would just walk in from Allegany up and down this ridge to go fishing in Gould Lake.

Jerry Phillips: That's right. People say they lived in, on Glenn Creek over there. They'd walk over this trail.

David Gould: They'd come right down on this ridge here.

Jerry Phillips: A good trail.

David Gould: It's not bad. My dad brought my grandmother, or my mother, up here when they was dating. Took her fishing. She kept getting behind and she would come up over the hill to Silver Falls, climbing on the tree, she's getting behind. He'd just say, "Oh the bear's getting closer" boy, she would take off. That wore her out I guess.

Bob Zybach: She married him anyhow?

David Gould: She told me about that later.

Jerry Phillips: There's trees out there but they're a little bit bigger.

Bob Zybach: Well, that looks like a lot of the snags that we're going through. It's like two basic age classes with an older story and then the second-growth underneath. Is that Doug fir, hemlock, combination mostly?

Jerry Phillips: That's 1840 stuff.

Bob Zybach: Uh-huh (affirmative).

Jerry Phillips: If it has hemlock in it, it's probably that 1840 then.

Bob Zybach: The other area didn't have hemlock, did it?

Jerry Phillips: That's right.

Bob Zybach: Wow.

Jerry Phillips: Which means that there was still a hemlock seed source available when this was open, and later there wasn't any hemlock seed source.

Bob Zybach: And earlier there wasn't any hemlock seed source -- if the 1750 trees didn't have any hemlock in them.

Jerry Phillips: Well, it's hard to tell with those. Hemlock doesn't live quite as long.

Bob Zybach: According to the Weyerhaeuser specs, very few of these trees ever make it to 400 years. What do you think on hemlock? 200, 250 maybe?

Jerry Phillips: I think somewhere in there. I saw some true old-growth hemlock one time, Mount Rainier, and it is quite interesting to look at. The bark looks quite different.

David Gould: I saw a couple of them, too, on Kentuck.

Bob Zybach: Hemlock?

David Gould: Yeah. They were with the old-growth above the mill pond.

Bob Zybach: Wow.

David Gould: About four-foot on the butt.

Bob Zybach: I saw the picture of you and your grandfather with that one old-growth.

David Gould: That's real old-growth there.

Bob Zybach: That looks like maybe eight-foot diameter.

David Gould: No, it was bigger than that.

Bob Zybach: 10 foot?

David Gould: Yeah. Somewhere around there.

Bob Zybach: Wow.

David Gould: I wouldn't say how old they were.

Bob Zybach: That must go back to what . . . Lionel Youst was saying that went back to the 1400s.

David Gould: I don't know

Bob Zybach: I don't either. I don't know where he got that number.

Jerry Phillips: I don't think so.

David Gould: I want to know . . . To the left, isn't it?

Randy Wiest: Yup.

David Gould: The other road goes up into upper Elk Creek and that's where they were running cattle.

Bob Zybach: Wow.

David Gould: When they came in here originally the trees were much smaller. The trees would protect the elk from the snow. That's where you get your 1840 fire. But those trees were small trees here, but they weren't out in the open.

Bob Zybach: Just along the perimeter?

David Gould: Just along this 1840 perimeter. What I keep saying is the 1840 fire is where it was coming across the Umpqua from Scottsburg. This is the edge of it here. The 1868 fire started going from Loon Lake and then southward, maybe some over by Scholfield. I'm not sure about that. I don't see the lake right there. You can see it on maps and everything real plain. It will say right on the map, the fire is coming through to here.

Bob Zybach: I'd be interested in seeing it and also interested in looking it up in the other survey notes around the perimeter, but Jerry you think the fire started in Scottsburg in 1868?

Jerry Phillips: That's right. See, that's what the people said who were immigrating here, coming to Scottsburg, coming down the river. It was those folks in '68, they're the ones who said that. It was burning on both sides of the river, going southeast, going clear to the Lakeside.

Jerry Phillips: Now this . . . I think really it is a very complex fire history. The whole thing, and then no one really knows exactly how it is. People have ideas and stories, but I think no one is really sure about that. It must have been half a dozen fires in that time period. The only **one that CTA said**, well I know is confirmed by pioneer settlers.

Bob Zybach: The 1840 fire, when David was at my house, I was looking for a book that I had in which a couple missionaries come across in 1840. Then they returned over to the valleys in early September, September first or second. By that time there's a huge fire going, but they were up around the Elkton area, where they ran into it. It would have been moving east and south.

Jerry Phillips: Yeah.

Bob Zybach: I mean, west and south.

Jerry Phillips: That's the one that we know back in the southeast part of the forest. Salander Creek, Howell Creek and Cedar Creek.

Bob Zybach: It's interesting that we've actually got an historical record of that fire, not in that specific area but moving in that direction.

David Gould: It's a town in Scottsburg in 1850, when they built the county road three years later. But then it burnt down in the fire.

Bob Zybach: Well, it's interesting to kind of figure that out. The main thing though, I think everybody's in agreement, is the 1868 fire either re-burnt the 1840 fire and probably did -- and extended it -- it looks like.

David Gould: Yeah. The 1840 fire was right there when this burned. You can't tell where the lake is here.

Bob Zybach: Uh-huh (affirmative).

David Gould: Here's where one of the guys had a home built here, a rancher, had a building here. He never proved up on it though.

Bob Zybach: Right at this spot?

David Gould: Right back there, yeah. That's where the lake was. The lake was out there and went down.

Bob Zybach: Well, the cabin back there, was that Gould?

David Gould: George Gould had a cabin there, yeah.

Bob Zybach: But that was the younger [George] Gould?

David Gould: Junior, yeah.

Bob Zybach: Younger George.

David Gould: Yeah. Him and his dad partnered up in the cabin. We can go ahead a little further and stop there, if you want.

Bob Zybach: Okay.

David Gould: It's in there.

Bob Zybach: That's where he put his cabin, is back there?

David Gould: Yeah.

Jerry Phillips: If you look down there you should see a little bit of water.

David Gould: A little bit of water.

Jerry Phillips: Not much anymore.

David Gould: Look at that. It's all sand. There's no gravel in it.

Randy Wiest: No.

David Gould: You go up to the upper end you've got gravel and you go below you got gravel.

Jerry Phillips: It's a landslide lake.

David Gould: There was probably 20 feet of water above that at one time. It washed the mouth out. It's still washing it out. That's where you get the gravel.

Jerry Phillips: That's right.

David Gould: I've got pictures looking right here, but got people in the boat there. Right here, yeah. Back there was where the rock was. That point went down in the rock there.

Bob Zybach: How far back is that?

David Gould: Just right behind us. It's probably hard to get down in there, you know?

Bob Zybach: I just wanted to get a picture from that location because I've got . . .

David Gould: Okay.

Bob Zybach: Just a second. Let me see if I can find it here without . . .

Randy Wiest: Are we good here or you want to . . .

David Gould: You can back up a bit.

Jerry Phillips: The picture of the side, was taken from a trail up the hill here.

Bob Zybach: I got a picture of the island that --

NOTE: The following 45 minutes of this oral history tour were inadvertently recorded over due to operator's error.

Tape 6-B End. 47:43

Tape 7-B. Interview with Jerry Phillips and David Gould by Bob Zybach, with Amber Ross and Randy Wiest while touring the Elliott State Forest on November 8, 2017. **NOTE:** The previous 45 minutes of this oral history tour were inadvertently recorded over due to operator's error.

Part 5. Old Maid's Cabin to Roberts Ridge (47:27)

Jerry Phillips: . . . "Let's just leave the alder standing. Nobody wants it. It's not good for anything. Let's just leave those alders standing over here." Inadvertent riparian buffer.

Jerry Phillips: Plan was clear over on Big Creek. This is a . . . this is still standing.

Amber Ross: That's the alder?

David Gould: There we go.

Jerry Phillips: Sixty-five years ago.

Amber Ross: Wow.

Stop #B-23. 0:39 Old Maid's Cabin, Spawning Gravel & Old-Growth. Photos (7): 0979; 0980; 0981; 0982; 0983; 0984; 0985

David Gould: So what you don't understand, Bob, is that this is the trail that went right up the hill over here.

Bob Zybach: Yep.

David Gould: This hits the top in just a little ways, then it hit the trail that goes to Loon Lake.

Bob Zybach: Uh-huh.

David Gould: And she had two sisters.

Bob Zybach: Randy, can we just stay for just a second.

Randy Wiest: Oh you bet. Sure.

Bob Zybach: Let me get . . . kind of get the story.

David Gould: She had two sisters lived over at Loon Lake. So that's why the she was here. She was trying to find somebody to marry her, I think, bless her. Anyway, so she ended up living with her sister just to help with the kids and the ranch, and teaching the kids' school, and then she got the money from the bees, the beehives.

Bob Zybach: Yeah?

David Gould: And they were selling 12 hundred pounds of honey a year, once in a while. That's a lot.

Bob Zybach: But her cabin was right here and it was on the trail between the Elkhorn and Loon Lake.

David Gould: Yeah, yeah, the trail goes up here across the stream to the divide.

Bob Zybach: Oh, that way.

David Gould: Yeah. And on ahead is where the main trail crossed the headwater of the West Fork and the Indian trail. First Indian trail to the Umpqua.

Bob Zybach: And that's what I've been . . . I've had mapped out at the beginning is the Indian trail went from Allegany to Loon Lake through --

Jerry Phillips: There's that little . . . probably on Elk Ridge.

Bob Zybach: Uh-huh. Now there's another . . . the Fern Cabin.

Jerry Phillips: That's up here on the Umpcoos.

Bob Zybach: Uh-huh?

Jerry Phillips: Or it was, up on the Umpcoos. It divides the Umpqua water and Coos River water.

Bob Zybach: And that's where the Fern Cabin was?

Jerry Phillips: That's where it was.

Bob Zybach: So that was in another bracken fern prairie?

Jerry Phillips: Yes it was, uh-huh.

Bob Zybach: Is that bracken fern prairie still there?

Jerry Phillips: I don't think so. I think it's all young fir right now.

Bob Zybach: So we could see it on an aerial photo, but from the 50s probably?

Jerry Phillips: I think so.

Bob Zybach: Uh-huh. And then this is the area, that's . . . I wasn't sure where it was, but this was the area that they left the first riparian [buffer].

Jerry Phillips: That's right behind us, near the Old Maid's Cabin.

Bob Zybach: Uh-huh. Isn't that where the guy said that if we're going to leave those trees, Fish and Wildlife should pay for them? Or is that the planned one?

Jerry Phillips: That was over on Big Creek.

Bob Zybach: Uh-huh. Okay, good.

Jerry Phillips: That was planned, over there. This wasn't planned.

David Gould: Those berries I was talking about . . . talk about George come in here to find the cattle and take it back to the ranch.

Bob Zybach: Uh-huh?

David Gould: And it took him like, what, six hours or something.

Bob Zybach: Wow. So that was the 1908 diary?

David Gould: Yeah. Yeah.

Bob Zybach: And was that George's diary?

David Gould: Yeah.

Bob Zybach: Oh, okay. Good.

David Gould: Talking about that, and that's where the Old Maid's Cabin was, you know. We were running around cattle back then and herding them back to the homestead before the snow.

Bob Zybach: Wow.

Amber Ross: You know where we're at Randy?

Randy Wiest: Yep.

David Gould: I guess we're ready, huh?

Randy Wiest: We're right here.

Amber Ross: We're on the 8000.

Randy Wiest: Eight thousand? Okay.

Bob Zybach: Well that's two birds with one stone. The first riparian area, I was wondering where that was at, and the Old Maids cabin, I was wondering where that was at. And they're both here, so all good.

David Gould: Yeah, the Old Maid's Cabin was where the alders are growing here. So if you want to go back --

Amber Ross: We're going to turn around.

Randy Wiest: We're going to turn around.

Bob Zybach: Oh, see, I didn't know that.

David Gould: There used to be a big culvert here and they put this bridge in for the fish.

Randy Wiest: Holy cow, this is tight in here.

David Gould: Right here I had a reload rock pile right here.

Jerry Phillips: It is apparently up here, was open ground for grazing because Bert called the picket fence right here, sort of above her cabin, and so it must've been a patch of . . . opening up, it had something for the cows to chew on there. It's all trees now.

David Gould: I think the way their land lays there, they didn't want the cattle to go on up that way because they could've just kept going. That's why they put that there, to keep them out of that draw there. There's another draw just over this little hill here. Cut that draw off with the fence, and then there's more fence in here to keep the horses and stuff in when they would run around here.

Bob Zybach: So this was basically pastureland up until about World War I, maybe. Well probably up until World War II, maybe.

David Gould: Oh, they kind of got out of here in the 1920s or whatever.

Bob Zybach: But, well, that's --

Jerry Phillips: I think this has always been timberland.

Bob Zybach: They were grazing the cattle, though.

Jerry Phillips: In a few places.

Bob Zybach: Okay.

Jerry Phillips: But not just everywhere.

Bob Zybach: I see.

David Gould: I thought it was open pretty much. And a lot of places in this bottom has got the meanders on down here, we have yet to see. The cattle were free to roam for their feed.

Bob Zybach: Uh-huh.

David Gould: There's a lot of gravel down there for fish.

Bob Zybach: I was going to say that back there, at the cabin site, there's a ton of gravel.

David Gould: Look at this tree here. That's a --

Bob Zybach: That's a beauty.

David Gould: That grew after the 1868 fire, you see why they want to call it old-growth. See this one had natural alder and stuff to knock the lower limbs off her, probably.

Bob Zybach: You can see the . . . yeah.

Jerry Phillips: It doesn't have the plated bark, though, that the true old-growth has.

Bob Zybach: That's what, maybe 250 to 300 years of age?

Jerry Phillips: Yeah. It's right in there.

Bob Zybach: Yeah, you can get that at about 200 years in certain places, like I think the Olympics and the Cascades. But maybe those trees are older than I've estimated, too.

David Gould: The real old-growth my granddad called Yellow Fir had a yellowish color and fine grain .

Jerry Phillips: Yeah. That's what it's called.

David Gould: And it even smelled different.

Jerry Phillips: Kind of a yellowish-plated bark.

Bob Zybach: Yeah. That's where you get the six- and eight-foot trees. Ten-foot trees.

Jerry Phillips: Well, you might.

David Gould: We're going to see an old-growth down here, along the 8000 downstream from the 9000 junction.

Jerry Phillips: Depends on how good the ground is. On the H.J. Andrews Experimental Forest over there. That's typical Cascades land, it's not all flat. It's pretty decent ground, but not flat. And that is a 400-year-old stand.

Bob Zybach: Ah-hah.

David Gould: Sure glad I filled the holes on the rest of it.

Bob Zybach: Could've been a bad trip.

David Gould: I just got up to here trying to save rock and go the other way. Did all the way up to 2300 to 9000, 8000 here out to the 2000.

Bob Zybach: Looks like you've got some more work to do.

David Gould: Well, it's kind of out of my area now. To get rid of these, you just put some rock in them and then if you grade the road and try to tell them what's here, it just keeps coming back because you can't get it back good enough. Next guy comes over and makes that hole again and the water sits in, you got the whole package. Water splashes the stuff out of it.

Bob Zybach: Jerry, some of those trees back there look like they have a different type of moss and a lot thicker than the other trees we've been looking at. Just that one patch. I was hoping to find some more that look the same to ask you about. There's a real, thick, curdling moss, just pretty solid patches on those trees. I'm not seeing any more.

David Gould: Nice little waterfall in here.

Randy Wiest: Pretty little waterfall right there.

Bob Zybach: Oh yeah.

David Gould: That's beautiful, I'll say that. Every one of these little side draws has a waterfall in it. You don't see that much vegetation. That's what happened here in the middle of the storm when they tried to open the road back up, water going everywhere and boy you really see a lot of stuff. Right there is where I was talking about, see that little ditch we went across?

Amber Ross: Yeah.

David Gould: That goes from this stream to the main draw they used to cross there to the ranch.

Bob Zybach: So they just lowered the ridge and took a short cut about ¼ mile.

David Gould: That's how they would . . . they just went up over that hump, sometimes. Think it was very easy going, and that was the plan. My granddad talked about it some, not sure what it was.

Jerry Phillips: You know, a salmonberry patch like this, nothing is going to grow in there.

Bob Zybach: Yeah?

Jerry Phillips: I mean you're not going to have alder, fir, or anything growing in there. You're going to get burned off.

Bob Zybach: We used to cut those with chainsaws and spray them when they'd sprout. That was the only way we get to handle them. And it didn't take care of them, but I was wondering, those salmonberry patches, now we looked at some before that had alder in them, and then the story was that the alder die and then it's just pure salmonberry, but . . . so those aren't relict salmonberry patches, those are invasive salmonberry patches?

David Gould: There wasn't salmonberries when my grandparents were in here.

Bob Zybach: Okay. That's what I was curious about. But it sounds like on Tenmile Ridge, that those salmonberry patches might have been pretty firmly established.

David Gould: We've seen the old-growth snags around here pretty soon.

Bob Zybach: Yeah, yeah.

David Gould: They are about the same size as timber you have now. These trees aren't old-growth according to me, so they weren't old-growth, except a few of them. The definition changed. There's a lot of salmon spawning gravel in some of that down there.

Bob Zybach: The definition I've always used on old-growth is 200 years, but in your report, you used 300 years. And Jerry, when we were talking last time, you said that they called 140- and 160-year-old stuff "old-growth."

Jerry Phillips: We used about 170 as our cut off. But that's a bad term. Old-growth is a bad term.

Bob Zybach: Yeah?

Jerry Phillips: It's a logger's term, not forestry. Logger's term, meaning large, usually fairly old timber. It's a very fuzzy term. But today, the environmental wackos, now they apply it to anything that's large. If it's more than 18 inches, it's old-growth.

Bob Zybach: Wow.

Jerry Phillips: To them.

Bob Zybach: Wow.

Jerry Phillips: It becomes more and more meaningless.

David Gould: Those guys don't want to cut anything, so they call it that.

Jerry Phillips: We already know that true old-growth is the Yellow Fir, probably it's 3- or 400-years-old.

David Gould: It's a pretty good patch over there.

Bob Zybach: At Oregon State, they did a study in the late 1940s, and at that time they were arguing that old-growth should be 400 and 450 years of age, like you're arguing.

Jerry Phillips: That's right.

Bob Zybach: Which would be equivalent to probably a 90-year-old person or something. You'd be old-growth.

Jerry Phillips: Yep. That's right. That's right.

David Gould: Here's how we got started. When the people came here, they were logging the older timber, the yellow fir, which is a bigger timber. And then they got that cut -- we called it old-growth -- the next batch would be the . . . we called that the old-growth -- the next batch would be the growth, and whatever. The Elliott Forest timber, because of its age and size, was the third-growth.

Bob Zybach: Yeah?

David Gould: Second-growth, and you keep going down until you got the third-growth. The third-growth was smaller by like this [showing with arms].

Jerry Phillips: That's right. The timber being logged in the 50s by the gyppos was all third-growth. Almost all third-growth.

David Gould: So we had state forest timber when my dad was logging. It was small, but it was beautiful for small mills because that's what they were designed to cut.

Bob Zybach: Uh-huh.

Jerry Phillips: And very little defects. Very little defects, whereas true old-growth has quite a bit of defects.

David Gould: We're having trouble getting the rings to be six rings per inch, whereas to make good lumber, you never have trouble finding that sometimes, because it's too porous. Like railroad ties, they have to have that on them, also, so it's kind of hard to get it sometimes.

Jerry Phillips: The other is called "fast-growth." The market adapted to that. It was first believed there was nobody that would want to buy fast-growth. Oh, that's all gone away now.

David Gould: I'll tell you one thing, what they're doing in the drainages [adding trees and rocks for "structure"], until you get the gravel, it's hard to fill in.

Bob Zybach: Well they have a big patch of it back there and it's been at Old Maid's Cabin, there's a lot of it.

David Gould: It's working, whatever they're doing.

Bob Zybach: Aha. Well that's interesting. I've never seen those logs actually function before, where there were --

David Gould: You got wood and rock structure to have gravel in order to catch it because the gradient is too steep and makes a solid smooth channel bottom.

Bob Zybach: Yeah.

David Gould: It's coming out of side creeks, most of it.

David Gould: Another place where the alder died. See it over there? Where the alder died and that's what you get. Big old maple there.

Bob Zybach: Yup.

Jerry Phillips: Yeah.

David Gould: Unless you get a burn there or something.

Bob Zybach: Looks like a plantation from here.

David Gould: I need to come up here and patch these holes up, I guess.

Bob Zybach: Jerry, it looks like this area might have been planted while you were managing the forest.

Jerry Phillips: Oh yeah.

Bob Zybach: It would've been one of your last jobs here, I would think.

Jerry Phillips: Oh, probably be a little --

David Gould: Small log mills just love this type of timber.

Bob Zybach: What's interesting is I did a history of mills in Oregon, they were almost all tie mills, small log mills, nobody could handle old-growth.

David Gould: It was after the 1868 fire when there was a new forest. Right after the war, that's when they started coming for the 40- and 60-year-old trees.

Jerry Phillips: Because the railroads were in great need of maintenance ties, so there were a lot of tie mills.

Bob Zybach: Two things changed that, creosote and automobiles.

Jerry Phillips: Yes they did.

Bob Zybach: Well, the story you were talking about is mythology; it's a story that they came in and cut all the old-growth, and they didn't. They came in and they cut as much second-growth as they could handle for the tie mills. They couldn't handle the old-growth.

Randy Wiest: Oh, did you want to go that way?

David Gould: No, we want to go the way we're going.

Randy Wiest: Oh, okay [8000-9000 intersection].

David Gould: Up there, there are some bigger trees down there that we'll show you, if you want to look at bigger trees.

Jerry Phillips: See, there's genuine old-growth over here to the left, just a handful. And you can tell that the bark is different.

David Gould: One right there, and some on the right, too. There's a bigger tree there.

Bob Zybach: There's a . . . you see the bark is starting to form.

David Gould: Here's one right here, see?

Bob Zybach: Yep. Ah, that's a nice sized tree.

David Gould: Yeah. I wonder if they had environmentalists sitting in it or not. It looks big enough.

Bob Zybach: Have they ever actually found a murrelet in a tree anywhere near here?

Jerry Phillips: They have.

Bob Zybach: They have? In a tree?

Jerry Phillips: It's a rarity.

David Gould: That tree right there? There's one. That tree over there, that's what they want to see out here, those dead trees now.

Bob Zybach: Yeah.

Jerry Phillips: One thing I did was go after these. Fires have burned most of these trees.

Bob Zybach: Yep. I just did an editorial in the paper and I've been getting all kinds of holy hell from people with anonymous names.

David Gould: Oh yeah?

Bob Zybach: For wanting to cut everything and use deadwood for --

David Gould: Here's a true old-growth down here, with the bark like it is. See it there?

Bob Zybach: Oh yeah.

David Gould: See the fire burn on the . . . I mean, the black bark? It's from the fire.

Bob Zybach: Yeah, that's a fire scar?

Amber Ross: Oh wow. That's a big tree.

David Gould: That's probably about a 7-footer there.

Bob Zybach: The one right across the creek there, too.

David Gould: There's three or four of them that's not quite as big above us. They're all -- right here [Elk Creek and West Fork divide] is where the fires let up enough that they didn't kill them.

Bob Zybach: Yeah.

David Gould: Everything else got killed, but . . . You can see the fire went through it. That one probably had some limbs that did burn on there.

Jerry Phillips: Yeah. Some people are saying now that this never was a stand of old-growth.

Bob Zybach: Yeah?

Jerry Phillips: Individual trees.

Bob Zybach: Yeah?

Jerry Phillips: There they are. They're probably good for another 200 years.

Bob Zybach: What's that?

Jerry Phillips: I said they're probably good for another 200 years.

Bob Zybach: You think they are?

Jerry Phillips: They could be. On the H.J. Andrews, they're up there.

Bob Zybach: That's the Cascades. They grow a lot slower up there. And then they got a lot less competition from certain things. But it does seem like the Elliott was at least scattered old-growth before it burned in '68.

Jerry Phillips: I think so.

David Gould: Right in this area. Further south there wasn't any, just the trees here now. I know that for sure from what I've seen.

Jerry Phillips: Once a fire like that burns, once it gets going, they can cover miles in one day.

Bob Zybach: Yeah, but then again, it's like if it's going through miles of forest or miles of shrub land or miles of grass, it all makes a difference what the fuels are.

Jerry Phillips: Yep.

Bob Zybach: And to see that there's probably 50- or 60-thousand acre patch here, and then the Weyerhaeuser patch right next door, the Millicoma, that's pretty extensive.

David Gould: That had to do with the wind direction and the topography. If you look at the map, all the ridges were running this way, and the fire follows to the south and west. I think there's old-growth here somewhere. Go up the hill there.

Bob Zybach: Well these old-growth through here, they're what, 300-, 350-years of age, do you think?

Jerry Phillips: Close to 300.

David Gould: That one back there's probably one.

Bob Zybach: Well Weyerhaeuser -- on their inventory of the Millicoma -- most of the trees they had were about 200 years of age; 180, 200 and 220, and they were in really good health.

Jerry Phillips: Yep, they were.

Bob Zybach: Then after that, they started deteriorating as they got up in age. They didn't get any trees that were 400 years of age, and the oldest ones they had -- they were in a 380 or 390 range -- were pretty much shot.

Jerry Phillips: Every event, they were over the . . . what they called the Pillsbury area.

Bob Zybach: Yep.

Jerry Phillips: The southeast part of the Weyerhaeuser tree farm.

Bob Zybach: And the Pillsbury area had the big patches of second-growth and old burns of through it, too.

Jerry Phillips: That's right.

Bob Zybach: It wasn't solid old-growth by any stretch. And that's the only tract I know of in the whole area that was extent after 1868.

David Gould: This spot here has hardly any spawning gravel in it. There wasn't any wood in there, either.

Bob Zybach: Do you think if they put wood in here that it would start trapping the gravel?

David Gould: I don't know if it would or not.

Bob Zybach: Well it's impressive back there to see where they put the trees and it actually was capturing gravel and creating spawning habitat.

David Gould: They might have tried to put the trees in there, but the current could have pulled them out.

Jerry Phillips: What's happened is that people have tried this a number of times and in the winter when you have six-foot floods coming down there, it washes those things out.

Bob Zybach: Yep. That's why I was always wondering about throwing trees in creeks, I figured if you put in a chunk of concrete or something to get the same effect, it would be long lasting.

Jerry Phillips: That's why they try these boulders.

Bob Zybach: Yep.

David Gould: They got the boulders down there.

Bob Zybach: But when we had the '96 floods, almost all the stream enhancement projects just kind of flushed out to the ocean.

David Gould: There's a lot of spawning area up here that don't have any gravel in it.

Amber Ross: Hey Randy, will you back up?

Randy Wiest: Yep.

Amber Ross: At this road here. That's good. I want to see if that tree just broke or if someone cut it.

Bob Zybach: It's been cut right there.

Amber Ross: Right.

Bob Zybach: Up there, it looks like it blew down.

Randy Wiest: I think it blew down.

Bob Zybach: Yeah.

Amber Ross: Okay. We've had somebody cutting trees and I wanted to check it out.

Randy Wiest: They come up here to cut firewood and they left most of it there.

Jerry Phillips: That's what it is. That's all alder. Alder firewood.

Amber Ross: Some of them that were actually cut, the butts were underneath.

Bob Zybach: Wow.

Amber Ross: Yeah, it was . . . Some kid came in at night in the dark.

Randy Wiest: Risking his life doing it.

Amber Ross: Yeah.

Randy Wiest: Bad scenario, felling trees at night.

Bob Zybach: Wow.

Randy Wiest: And especially head high.

David Gould: They come in here when they're sawing off the big trees in the road, and they cut them out, then they pack the wood back to the car. Stand of alder.

Bob Zybach: Then they'd been logged off and then came back to alder?

David Gould: For the alders, yeah. You don't see any fir in it. But that's good, they keep the roads open.

Bob Zybach: Amber, who did you take your GIS classes from? I took GIS in '88, and there was a guy that did tessellation [Jon Kimerling] and he was really well known. I can't think of his name.

Amber Ross: Oh, I think my teachers would've been a lot younger than that. I don't know if I can tell you the names.

Bob Zybach: Oh, that's the trouble I was having. He was really well known, and having international influence. I found out I could do GIS with a two-year learning curve at that time.

Amber Ross: Hmm.

Randy Wiest: Old-growth right there.

David Gould: There's another one here that died. Somewhere right in here.

Amber Ross: It's still a pretty steep learning curve. The certificate is 21 credits as a minor.

Bob Zybach: Wow. I took it and I got a B because theoretically I'd been using mylar sheets and I knew exactly why you use it, how to interpret it, how to use aerial photos. I never got to the part where you put in a point here and make a straight line, it was just like really . . . And they were using PCs and I'm a Mac person, so the technical part of it was just [too much].

David Gould: Yeah, they started to put boulders in to start right over the bridge here. You see what the boulders have done. Go down here, just a little, about halfway down to the Elkhorn Ranch. They had a big pile of boulders that we built from road construction in solid sandstone.

Stop #B-25. 26:14 Pheasant Cabin to Joe's Lake. No Photos.

Jerry Phillips: Okay, now the Pheasant Cabin was right there.

Bob Zybach: The Pheasant Cabin?

Jerry Phillips: Pheasant Cabin.

David Gould: They're all in the back there somewhere.

Jerry Phillips: There's actually nothing here anymore.

Bob Zybach: Uh-huh.

Jerry Phillips: I tried to show my sons where it was. It was right on the upper edge of that turn pass there.

David Gould: It kind of went back in the ground, didn't it?

Jerry Phillips: Well, it was all made of young fir poles.

Bob Zybach: Oh wow.

Jerry Phillips: And they all rotted away. There's a picture in my book of that cabin, and it was still used. Still probably sleep overnight in it. When it went away, it went away.

Bob Zybach: Uh-huh. Now that's Pheasant Cabin.

Jerry Phillips: That's Pheasant Cabin.

Bob Zybach: All the others are built out of cedar shakes.

Jerry Phillips: That was “Baldy” [Baltimore or “Balty”] Crane’s. There probably wasn't any cedar wood around here.

Bob Zybach: Uh-huh. So this is the same guy, Baltimore guy.

Jerry Phillips: Baldy Crane.

Bob Zybach: Balty Crane.

Jerry Phillips: And Cle Wilkinson.

David Gould: Look at the boulders there.

Bob Zybach: Are they capturing gravel?

David Gould: A little bit.

Amber Ross: A little bit.

Jerry Phillips: And they put those boulders in the creek down there.

David Gould: We blew them up and trucked to a pile. We’re coming to this part of Bert's property here. Bert's homestead.

Bob Zybach: Bert Gould, the surveyor, he picked this land.

David Gould: Yeah, we're on it here, now.

Jerry Phillips: That's right, I'm inclined to think it's here, but that picture says, mouth of Joe's Creek, which is a little bit further. And there’s no landmarks in the picture.

Bob Zybach: What was the main thing he was trapping through here?

David Gould: This here looked awful suspicious [for a cabin site] to me. Feel like we couldn't get them up here, but maybe not.

Jerry Phillips: We built that road [9300] over to Elkhorn Ridge.

David Gould: What do I know? Looked like it could've been part of this clearing here.

Bob Zybach: Uh-huh.

David Gould: That's where I tore the tree stand down, up here. Zip zip.

Bob Zybach: Now what creek is this through here?

Jerry Phillips: This is West Fork Millicoma.

Bob Zybach: Oh, okay.

Jerry Phillips: Main West Fork.

David Gould: How far is it, about five miles down to the [Elkhorn] ranch from here, by river?

Jerry Phillips: Now . . .

Amber Ross: Two and a half.

Bob Zybach: Two and a half. Wow.

Jerry Phillips: Dave says, he wonders if that cabin was right in here because this is about the mouth of Joe's Creek. The general area.

Bob Zybach: So this might be the Pheasant Cabin here?

David Gould: No, the Pheasant Cabin is back there.

Bob Zybach: Okay. Bert's?

Jerry Phillips: No. The picture I handed out earlier.

Bob Zybach: Uh-huh. Oh this is a nice stand through here.

Jerry Phillips: Mm-hmm (affirmative). People use this as a camping area quite a bit.

Bob Zybach: Uh-huh.

David Gould: I've got a picture of it right there. See that it's got three drainages down in here?

Jerry Phillips: That's where it might be, right here.

Bob Zybach: Right here?

David Gould: Yeah, Joe's Creek, Otter Creek and Deer Creek all come in right here.

Bob Zybach: Deer Creek?

David Gould: Deer Creek and Otter Creek and Joe's Creek all come right in this area.

Jerry Phillips: They do.

Bob Zybach: Ah-ha.

David Gould: He had a property on that stream. A central area.

Bob Zybach: And that's why he chose it for his homestead?

David Gould: I'm sure, yeah.

Jerry Phillips: And he would drive these livestock up, up, up from the Elkhorn Ranch down there, up through here, and then up this ridge and over Dean's Mountain to market.

Bob Zybach: Aha. So over this ridge, the market --

Jerry Phillips: It blows my mind. And we never knew who Joe was, if Joe was an Indian or just . . . who Joe was.

Bob Zybach: When he drove them over the hill to market, was that market in . . .?

Jerry Phillips: Reedsport.

Bob Zybach: Reedsport, okay.

David Gould: This is the end of the 8100 right there.

Jerry Phillips: Joe's Creek.

Randy Wiest: Joe's Creek right there?

Jerry Phillips: Yep.

Bob Zybach: And Joe might've been an Indian guy?

Jerry Phillips: That's just a story I heard one time but, I don't . . . we don't know that.

Randy Wiest: Pile of boulders right there.

Jerry Phillips: Often they assign one name to Indians.

David Gould: They went down there a long ways and put a lot of them in there. I put stuff up this draw [Joe's Creek], too. Right down below here is where they had a bunch of beehives.

Bob Zybach: Oh, is this where she kept her bees?

David Gould: It's one of them right down . . . across the river down there.

Bob Zybach: Well, they had one right up at the Elkhorn Ranch where they said they had a glass wall where they could see the bees.

David Gould: Yeah, those are just for watching them with the kids.

Bob Zybach: What were the bees . . . was it clover, or --?

David Gould: Oh I don't know. They were --

Bob Zybach: Fireweed?

David Gould: Fireweed or whatever. I don't know. Huckleberries, everything.

Jerry Phillips: Salal, would have berries, flowers.

David Gould: They got a lot of honey out of here. It's recorded.

Jerry Phillips: So is salmonberry.

David Gould: I think the biggest problem was bears getting in there. They had to work around that, too.

Bob Zybach: Uh-huh. That would question . . . you kind of laughed last time, Jerry, but there's an Indian myth and I think, that a grizzly bear challenged some people that were digging camas in Ash Valley. And it looks to me, driving through there, Ash Valley probably had camas, but I've never heard of any grizzly bears in this country.

Jerry Phillips: No. As far as I knew, there never were. These are all brown bears or black bears.

Bob Zybach: How about you, David? Have you ever heard of --?

David Gould: No, I haven't.

Bob Zybach: Yeah?

David Gould: I didn't know if you wanted to go to Dean's mountain or go somewhere else? I don't know where you wanted to go.

Amber Ross: We're headed towards the 2000, towards Dean's Mountain.

Bob Zybach: Oh, Dean's Mountain, yeah.

David Gould: Have you decided whether you want to go left or right, or what time we want to peel out, or whatever?

Bob Zybach: Well, let's see, we're making some good time.

David Gould: Jerry used to say there was a myrtle patch down there both ways.

Bob Zybach: Well I'm interested in that. Is that on the way to Dean's Mountain?

David Gould: No, it doesn't go that way when you go back. But it's not that far.

Bob Zybach: Let's take that. I haven't seen any myrtle patches on the interior here. It looked like there was a couple of myrtles on the Elkhorn Ranch.

David Gould: Yeah, I don't know if they're still growing down there or not. But Jerry still thinks we have plenty there.

Bob Zybach: Uh-huh.

David Gould: It's cold back here.

Bob Zybach: Let's see.

David Gould: I think here they used to have a little dam here for storing water with the beavers.

Jerry Phillips: We had five million gallons of water in there at one time.

Bob Zybach: Wow.

Amber Ross: Stock pond?

Jerry Phillips: Joe's Lake.

Amber Ross: Joe's Lake?

David Gould: Yeah, you got sand in the bottom here.

Jerry Phillips: I think the beavers did knock out the dam. We put an earthen dam across the creek.

Bob Zybach: The next thing I'm seeing up here is Mud Spring.

Jerry Phillips: Now that's the old CC's side camp.

Bob Zybach: Yep.

David Gould: Turn left up here.

Randy Wiest: Turn left? Okay.

Jerry Phillips: This is just to the east of . . .

Bob Zybach: Is that where the myrtle is, too? That's on the same turn?

David Gould: Yeah.

Bob Zybach: Okay. Yeah, those are the --

David Gould: See this corner here? My dad had two trucks meet here head-on after the guy stopped to load a log truck going around the other side.

Bob Zybach: Wow.

David Gould: Talk about somebody pissed. Dump truck driver.

Bob Zybach: Yeah, there's Dean Mountain lookout, then there's Mud Spring Spike Camp.

Amber Ross: There is an old foundation of Dean Mountain lookout.

Bob Zybach: Of what?

Amber Ross: Dean Mountain lookout.

Bob Zybach: Oh good.

Amber Ross: If you want to go there.

Bob Zybach: Yeah, that was one of the places . . . I didn't know if we'd have time enough. Looks like we've got a bunch of time.

Amber Ross: I think it's just right there, if you go right.

Jerry Phillips: The spring for Dean's Mountain lookout was Mud Springs [main water source was the 7000 Road just below the lookout. DGG].

Bob Zybach: Oh okay, so it's the same one as for the [CCC] spike camp?

Jerry Phillips: Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Bob Zybach: Okay, yeah, that was one thing I was interested in. The spike camp and Dean's Mountain, and the myrtle grove.

Amber Ross: I'm going to look up where Dean's Mountain really is. Probably further up.

David Gould: It's about 8 o'clock. (joke)

Bob Zybach: Two o'clock.

David Gould: So, the ridge over there used to have lots of myrtle on it. Lots of huckleberries.

Bob Zybach: What ridge is that?

David Gould: That's where Joe used to have a huckleberry patch.

Bob Zybach: Well that makes a lot of sense. Indian Point has got huckleberries all the way down the ridge.

David Gould: To get over in there, it's kind of . . . it's not open now.

Jerry Phillips: See that?

Amber Ross: Hang on, Randy.

Randy Wiest: You okay? Where are you at?

Bob Zybach: This one.

Randy Wiest: You bet.

Stop #B-32. 36:16 Old-Growth Alder to Roberts Ridge. Photos (3): 0986; 0987; 0988

Jerry Phillips: This patch of alder right in front of me, this looks just the same today as it did 65 years ago.

Bob Zybach: Wow.

Jerry Phillips: So I believe that this is a patch of alder which is at least 100 years old.

David Gould: It grew up after the 1868 fire.

Jerry Phillips: But there it is.

Bob Zybach: This isn't a very good filing system, but it's kind of working.

Jerry Phillips: And it's very hard to determine the age of alder when you do a ring count. Very hard to separate the rings.

Randy Wiest: High rings?

Jerry Phillips: Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Bob Zybach: Randy, let me get a picture here of these alder.

Randy Wiest: Oh you bet.

Amber Ross: So we're about two and a half miles from Dean's Mountain, three probably with all these curves.

Bob Zybach: Uh-huh.

David Gould: This was what so much of this west side looked like. It didn't have old-growth on it [the alder probably started growing 30 years after the fire. DGG].

Bob Zybach: Yeah?

David Gould: I'm not sure which way you want to go. One has some stuff down there and one is like a big mountain up there, so we can go one way and come back and go the other way.

Amber Ross: Yeah.

David Gould: It's kind of which way you want to go out.

Amber Ross: So, I was going to ask you about the exit.

David Gould: Probably want to exit out Benson Ridge, I would think.

Amber Ross: Point out Benson Ridge.

David Gould: It comes out of Lakeside.

Amber Ross: Oh, down here?

David Gould: Here's Lakeside.

Amber Ross: This one's Benson Ridge. Okay. Yeah, we can go out Benson Ridge.

David Gould: So if we do that, then you want to see Dean's Mountain and want to see this, now we probably just go, we either go up here and come back and go over there, or through here and come back and go there and come out this way, or . . .

Amber Ross: Okay.

David Gould: Otherwise you're going to end up over in the Umpqua and this is all too far out here.

Amber Ross: Yeah, and this is blocked.

David Gould: That's blocked now?

Amber Ross: I think ODF's got a timber sale going on.

David Gould: Oh okay.

Amber Ross: The road's blocked. Okay, so either way we're going to backtrack twice. Okay.

David Gould: Cookie. I'm going to step on it.

Randy Wiest: Don't step on your cookie.

David Gould: He's waiting to get in.

Bob Zybach: Yeah, in no hurry, kind of enjoying the fresh air. We've got myrtle grove, Mud Springs Side Camp, and Dean's Mountain? Does that sound right?

Amber Ross: Yep.

Bob Zybach: And they're all in the same stretch?

David Gould: No. We've gotta go down and come back.

Bob Zybach: Okay.

Amber Ross: Yeah, we're going to have to backtrack twice, so some stuff is this way, some stuff is this way, and then our closest exit is going to be out that way.

Bob Zybach: It looks like we've got good time to do it.

Amber Ross: Yep.

Bob Zybach: Okay.

Amber Ross: So you want to go south first or north first?

Bob Zybach: Well, which way would coordinate with the way out? North is coordinated with the way out, isn't it?

David Gould: Sort of in-between.

Amber Ross: Yeah.

Bob Zybach: Oh okay.

Amber Ross: We're about right in the middle.

David Gould: We'll just go to the left first and coming right back.

Randy Wiest: Okay. Go left first?

David Gould: Yeah.

Randy Wiest: Okay. Sounds good to me.

Bob Zybach: I have no idea where I am, so . . . but I wanted to get that Joe's Ridge has a big patch of huckleberries on it.

Jerry Phillips: There's Joe's Ridge.

David Gould: Back behind us. You'd like to see it better when we go up towards Dean's Mountain.

Bob Zybach: Well the . . . it seems like where the huckleberries are it's correlated with Indians one way or the other. If you had a really thick patch . . . well that's what it was, it was the Indian allotments --

David Gould: Didn't you have a little bigger patch of trees in here, Jerry? Some of this in here was a little bigger, wasn't it?

Bob Zybach: Jerry, did you have a logging show through here? Did they have larger trees through here?

Jerry Phillips: Oh, the leave trees tended to be a little bit smaller. But the trees are a little bit younger along the 2000 here.

Bob Zybach: Well last time we talked about the Indian allotments, I didn't even know they had any on the Elliott. Is there a map or description of the Indian allotments?

Jerry Phillips: Well we acquired three of them. They're all over on Mill Creek, on the east end of the forest.

David Gould: Here's where the side camp was, here.

Amber Ross: Stop here, Randy?

Bob Zybach: So this is the 3-C camp right here. Where's the water source for this?

David Gould: Down here.

Jerry Phillips: Dry Lake.

Bob Zybach: And where is Dry Lake?

David Gould: It was down there.

Jerry Phillips: Under the road here.

David Gould: I kind of filled it in one day. We've got to start by saying we used the spread going downhill there, and then they came in and dumped a bunch of rock in there later.

Bob Zybach: Ah-hah.

David Gould: Now that used to be a baseball field down there on that bench. Water was down there.

Jerry Phillips: This was just a cluster of cabins by the road.

Bob Zybach: So they had a cluster of cabins up here, but they had a baseball field below?

Jerry Phillips: That's right.

Bob Zybach: And the water was down there?

Jerry Phillips: That's right.

Bob Zybach: Wow.

Jerry Phillips: This is called a spike camp. It's a side camp from Mud Springs. And Mud Springs, by the way, was a side camp for Scholfield Creek, where the main camp was.

Bob Zybach: What was this spike camp called?

Jerry Phillips: Dry Ridge.

Bob Zybach: Dry Ridge Spike Camp, and then Mud Springs Spike Camp is in another location?

Jerry Phillips: By Dean's Mountain lookout.

Bob Zybach: Okay.

David Gould: We'll go back that way.

Bob Zybach: Oh, it's back the other way, okay.

David Gould: You wanted to go up further where the myrtle is.

Bob Zybach: Right.

David Gould: Where did you say the myrtle was, down on Johnson Ridge or something?

Bob Zybach: The myrtle?

Jerry Phillips: Just a wild guess here. It may be totally gone because our reforestation crew would probably have applied chemicals to the myrtle stubs to kill them. It was a upper elevation little flat, maybe, might have been 15, 20 acres there, and for some reason was in myrtle. And it was in our timber sale, so they probably just -- it was probably all cut down and the stumps were retreated.

Bob Zybach: Wow.

Jerry Phillips: I'm just guessing it's not there anymore.

Bob Zybach: Yep.

Jerry Phillips: It was at the head of Robert's Ridge. The big myrtle -- it was very inaccessible. That's over on Murphy Creek.

Bob Zybach: So this is the one you were talking about before. This is myrtle patch on Rogers Ridge.

Jerry Phillips: Roberts.

Bob Zybach: Roberts Ridge, uh-huh. Did it have a freshwater source near it?

Jerry Phillips: No, it didn't. And I haven't seen it for probably 40 years, or so.

Bob Zybach: Okay.

David Gould: It's a beautiful forest, look to your left as we go up through here. It's kind of open here, but when you get a little bit further it's . . . That's all out of the 1868 fire.

Bob Zybach: That is pretty.

David Gould: Looking at it you don't see the big limbs in it, either.

Jerry Phillips: Well this grove, it's a lot tighter.

David Gould: It's nothing like an old-growth forest, but some of it could become like the old-growth. Doesn't have the limbs on it..

Bob Zybach: Yeah. Well, it's too late for that. They're not going to stop limbs.

David Gould: Over where that boulder's sticking out. My granddad came through the pack trail and down this trail through to the top of this ridge. I'll show you where the spring was back there. They packed meat from there down to the smokehouse.

Bob Zybach: Uh-huh.

David Gould: There was a place down there that used to scare him to death. Because the trail was so steep and narrow – it was a solid rock hogback -- he would get off his horse and walk it through there.

David Gould: I came through here with a pickup. It's part of the old CCC road right here.

Bob Zybach: Oh this is?

David Gould: Yeah.

Bob Zybach: Uh-huh.

Jerry Phillips: We found it to the Cedar Cabin. They didn't mean to stop, but they did. The war came along. They were headed for --

David Gould: Is this Robert's Ridge here? I think it is.

Jerry Phillips: I think it may be.

David Gould: I think this is where you're thinking about, it's up on this hill here.

Jerry Phillips: They were headed for Trail Butte and Kentuck, but they stopped right here because the war came.

Amber Ross: That was Robert's Ridge.

David Gould: Yeah, that was Robert's Ridge, I think. Somewhere in there is where the myrtles are.

Jerry Phillips: Well they were 40 years ago.

Bob Zybach: Can you remember kind of where they were?

Jerry Phillips: Oh, very vaguely.

Bob Zybach: Okay.

Jerry Phillips: I think it started out that ridge on the left hand side.

Bob Zybach: So it'll be on our left here?

Jerry Phillips: Well, back on Robert's Ridge.

Amber Ross: We just passed it.

Bob Zybach: Oh I see, Robert's Ridge on the left.

Jerry Phillips: No, not this road here.

Amber Ross: There's a road that goes out.

Randy Wiest: We're going back.

Amber Ross: We're going to go back that way anyways.

Bob Zybach: Okay.

David Gould: Find a good place on the corner.

Randy Wiest: You say turn around? Okay.

David Gould: So it's 2400 . . .

Bob Zybach: We're getting actually pretty good coverage on this.

Amber Ross: Mm-hmm (affirmative).

David Gould: Good place for us to . . . just not too far ahead. Well, you're not going to get hung up. If you're somewhere in here, I can --

Randy Wiest: That'll work.

Tape 7-B End. 47:43

Tape 7-C. Interview with Jerry Phillips and David Gould by Bob Zybach, with Amber Ross and Randy Wiest while touring the Elliott State Forest on November 8, 2017. **NOTE:** This recording of the oral history recording was inadvertently copied over the 45-minute segment from Gould's Lake to the Old Maid's Cabin. Operator error.

Part 6. Divide Spring, Dean Mountain & CCC Mud Flat Side Camp (47:20)

Stop #B-32. 0:08 Roberts Ridge Myrtle Grove to Divide Spring. No photos.

Bob Zybach: Jerry, I've watched this all change over time. I'm not quite as old as you guys but I've watched all these meadows fill in and then I come out here with people that don't understand the woods and they think this is old-growth or native forest or something ancient.

Jerry Phillips: That's what they call it, native forest. That's –

Tape is silent from 0:24 to 0:51

Jerry Phillips: We don't really know much about that.

Bob Zybach: But then we have trappers and settlers and grazers and loggers and sawmills. And we got some pretty good clues on the Indians, where they were and what they were doing, by trail network and springs and certain types of plants.

David Gould: Do you want to come down here with Jerry or not? Is it further down or further up?

Jerry Phillips: It's through here.

David Gould: It's a good road going up and down one way. Now when my grandparents were running cattle up here somewhere on the far end of this, they were packing horses full of meat for down below [to the Elkhorn smokehouse to cure it for sale].

Amber Ross: Yup. This one's going to be rough.

David Gould: This one hasn't been maintained. This one's a bird hill.

Jerry Phillips: There's another one.

David Gould: That's what happens anywhere the water sits, you get deep holes.

Jerry Phillips: That's right.

David Gould: You got to put something big enough to stay in there. See how this is opened up? There's not much through here. You've got a bunch of bigger trees. This is what pure old-growth would look like if most of the forest were intact.

Bob Zybach: There's a myrtle right there.

David Gould: See this is what it's supposed to look like, old-growth, this one here. This might mean that that tree, over there, is older than that tree.

Bob Zybach: Jerry, we, I was --

Jerry Phillips: They're not going to be very far in there. It was on the left hand side, over a little ways, like I said, and it is totally gone.

Bob Zybach: Well we've seen a myrtle or two here or there. So it was just below the road here on a bench?

Jerry Phillips: Yeah, right.

Amber Ross: Is this enough room for you to turn around in?

Randy Wiest: Yeah, but . . .

Bob Zybach: Do we get a reading here?

Randy Wiest: There's some doubts here.

Amber Ross: Well I've been down this. I know it goes a fairly good ways.

Randy Wiest: Should be able to turn around right there.

Jerry Phillips: It's about four miles long.

David Gould: You can do it farther but the wheel's out here.

Randy Wiest: Yeah, keep one set on the road.

Amber Ross: I've got points farther down this road. I know where you can't go any farther, but . . .

David Gould: All I'm saying, if you look out here that's what your forest looked like before it burnt here. Just about the same size.

Jerry Phillips: It is. Pretty much.

Bob Zybach: So, those trees, though, are . . .

David Gould: A hundred and twenty years old.

Jerry Phillips: Yeah, that's about right.

Bob Zybach: So the burn then, Jerry . . . that was a question we were having before: if a majority of the burn or a large share of it was like a hundred to a hundred and twenty year old trees rather than three hundred year old trees?

David Gould: I think the trees were older in this basin a little more.

Bob Zybach: Yeah. But, it --

Jerry Phillips: Well, I suspect it was a mixture. So areas where -- like off the Umpqua Highway, the whole face there -- even there there's variation in there. I've done a little bit of ring counting in there, and there's probably variation just right around that Umpqua River face.

David Gould: Those cleaned up pretty good, but the alders are what cleaned them up.

Bob Zybach: The lower levels here?

David Gould: Yep.

Bob Zybach: Well, some of them were growing pretty tight together, though, too.

David Gould: Yep. There's a patch here and there. See, there you've got a clump of fir that has fewer lower limbs.

Bob Zybach: Those isolated ones . . .

David Gould: I'm pretty sure that most everything over on this side, and the further you go south the smaller it was.

Bob Zybach: I'm going to guess that the myrtle grove is down and around through here somewhere maybe, or a little bit further? Just beyond these fir here?

Jerry Phillips: Yeah, it was. . . pretty level ground, but out there a ways.

Bob Zybach: It wouldn't be in the fir.

Jerry Phillips: No, no.

David Gould: Looks different than it used to.

Bob Zybach: What's that?

David Gould: Looks different than it used to.

Bob Zybach: Yep.

David Gould: See, this was logged down here, you know, it's coming back into alder.

Jerry Phillips: That's the 1968 sale over there.

Jerry Phillips: I know because one of my sons was a choker setter on that sale.

David Gould: Those trees don't look like they're very old.

Jerry Phillips: Well, they were probably planted in 1970.

David Gould: Yeah, they've grown pretty tight, they don't have very long leaders on them. You know how close they are there, they're a bit older than these three big guys. Some of the bad seeds I guess.

Bob Zybach: Well, there it looks like they're thinning out to attrition. But slowly, but it's not producing the type of stand that you're used to seeing for old-growth.

Bob Zybach: Well that's unusual to have a myrtle grove this high up in the hill --

Jerry Phillips: Oh very.

Bob Zybach: That's why I was real curious about it. Most of the ones I've seen have been old Indian campgrounds, I mean they went in there and harvested the nuts and then they're shady and it smelled nice and there's usually fish and water nearby, but to have one way up on a hill like this is kind of . . . but it's right along the trail. It fits in like the huckleberry patches or that.

Bob Zybach: Jerry, that was a question, do you know where any of the Indian allotment maps are, or any history on that? I'd never heard of that before in this area.

Jerry Phillips: Well, I know where four of the allotments were. And maybe five.

David Gould: Six, since one of them, I think was. . .

Jerry Phillips: One is the Indian -- the elk pasture -- that was an allotment.

Bob Zybach: Which was?

Jerry Phillips: The elk pasture, down by Reedsport. The Dean's Creek elk pasture. But there were four others.

Bob Zybach: Was Charlotte Creek one?

Jerry Phillips: I didn't count that. It may have been also.

David Gould: There was Indians around the mouth of Charlotte Creek.

Bob Zybach: What's that?

David Gould: There's Indians at the mouth of Charlotte Creek, I heard about that one. They were in the water along the Umpqua, before the sailing ships. I read that somewhere. Before the sails.

David Gould: Just found an elk trail on the left bank.

Bob Zybach: There were stories of the fire going over, the Yaquina Burn 1849 of Indians going into the water, but you check out the sources on it, and there's one guy named Chief Nestucca talking to an Oregonian news reporter in 1890, so that's where the story came from. It's probably based on fact somewhere, but . . . It's really hard to document those things.

Bob Zybach: When you did your archaeological inventory, did you find any pre-1800 sites?

Amber Ross: Probably not. We didn't find anything that was prehistoric. There's just too much vegetation, and we have data for the Indian allotments. I know that Gary [Name?] pulled the list of them, and some GIS sheets show them -- more along the northern boundary on the Umpqua side -- along where the Mill Creek stream runs. So not inhabitable.

Bob Zybach: That's what's so unusual about it. I didn't even know they had allotments here and then they picked places that aren't habitable.

Amber Ross: I know there was some on that boundary, a couple over here, but yeah they were all too steep to do anything.

David Gould: It's called Dry Ridge, but that looks like a wet camp though.

Amber Ross: I might have a map on my thumb drive that I can show you, of allotments.

Bob Zybach: Well they look like they're in Douglas County.

Jerry Phillips: All the ones I know of --

Bob Zybach: Are in Douglas?

Jerry Phillips: Are in Coos except for the one on Big Creek. And that's right along that Coos - Douglas line.

Randy Wiest: Want to continue up?

David Gould: Yeah, go straight.

Randy Wiest: Go straight here? Okay.

David Gould: Look at all that old-growth alder.

Jerry Phillips: That's just big old alder there.

David Gould: Down below that ground up here is a stream over to the west here.

Bob Zybach: Now this stuff didn't follow logging, this followed the 1868 fire?

Jerry Phillips: Absolutely, yup.

David Gould: And that ridge, there's the ones that had the huckleberries on it.

Bob Zybach: So that's Joe's Ridge over there?

David Gould: Yeah. And you have a lot of what you call peavine up here on the [Dean's Mountain and Benson] ridges. Deer just love that stuff.

Bob Zybach: So do people. That's Peavine Ridge or Peavine Mountain down by the Rogue River. There's a big huge Indian ground and they turned it into a grazing ground.

David Gould: Up ahead here, they called it "Divide Spring." Because this was the divide between the river here and the coast, and then the spring's higher than the divide. This is where they used to camp. They didn't have a building here but they camped right out here on the top of the ridge. Somewhere between here and where the road turns off.

Bob Zybach: So, right in through here . . .

David Gould: Somewhere in here. My granddad wasn't sure where it was because the CCCs built the road through it.

Bob Zybach: And Divide Spring, he wasn't sure . . .

David Gould: Divide Spring, yeah.

Bob Zybach: So they . . .

David Gould: They hunted through here, yeah, for more than 25 years.

Jerry Phillips: Take it to the right, here.

Bob Zybach: Can you slow down just a second, Randy?

Randy Wiest: You bet.

Bob Zybach: But do you know where the spring is through here?

David Gould: Yeah, it's right there, see that's higher than the divide, see?

Bob Zybach: Yup. But it'd be right along the ridgeline?

David Gould: Somewhere in here is where they used to stop and camp; to hunt and camp.

Bob Zybach: Right along these springs, along the ridgelines, or . . . ?

David Gould: And then that way is all Peavine Ridge that way; more than 1500 acres of clearing.

Bob Zybach: So along this ridge we got myrtle, we got peavine, and then we got a spring.

David Gould: And you got huckleberries.

Bob Zybach: And huckleberries.

David Gould: We can go to Dean Mountain if you want to keep going.

Bob Zybach: To the right? But the spring is just over there a few feet?

David Gould: Yeah, it's right ahead of us, a lot higher than the divide is here.

Bob Zybach: Can we mark that on the map? The spring?

David Gould: The hunters used to shoot the tops off the fir trees out there to practice shooting.

Bob Zybach: So the spring's right here?

David Gould: It's right up here, yeah. There's water right back there.

Bob Zybach: Boy, that sure. . .

David Gould: That's why they call it Divide Spring, it's higher than the divide. Cause the divide's down over in the West Fork side now.

Amber Ross: Good?

Randy Wiest: Yeah, good.

David Gould: . . . 100 feet of water pipe, you can turn on the water from there to the other side of the ridge. Lots of alder around this country.

Bob Zybach: Lot of salmonberry.

David Gould: Yeah, lovely. I was up here one time with the kids in town.

Bob Zybach: Thimbleberry. Myrtle, peavine, springs, and the travel route. And huckleberries.

David Gould: This is a pretty nice area through here.

Jerry Phillips: And a pallet!

Bob Zybach: Kindling.

David Gould: This country had a lot of what you call peavine out here and kind of went off to Dean Mountain and spread out from here.

Bob Zybach: Well the peavine's just like bracken fern or flags, you need open sunlight for it and you can't have trees in it, and you can rejuvenate it by burning.

David Gould: You start looking for snags up here, you don't find big snags up here either. I mean, big ten-, six-foot snags.

Bob Zybach: Well that's one of the things I'm really curious about. It looks to me like in the open areas, like peavine and that, there's no big trees around them, that they've been mostly invasive but they might have come in in the early 1800s, about the same time that most of the people died off.

David Gould: You don't see any snags, big ones coming down through here. You're not going to see any.

Bob Zybach: So that spring back there, would that have been the source for Dean Mountain?

Jerry Phillips: No, no.

David Gould: No that's up ahead.

Jerry Phillips: Straight ahead.

Randy Wiest: Straight ahead?

Jerry Phillips: Yeah, and then to the left.

Randy Wiest: Okay.

David Gould: We'll come back around this way here. This road goes to Huckleberry Ridge there.

Bob Zybach: Oh that's Huckleberry Ridge? Do you call it Huckleberry Ridge or Joe's Ridge?

David Gould: Joe's Ridge, that's what it is. Blackberries or whatever . . .

Bob Zybach: Black huckleberries is what some people call those evergreens.

David Gould: Yeah, I don't. My grandparents used to put them in sugar and barrel them; layer of sugar and put them in barrels and they'd cure by the end of the wintertime. I saw a fox here one day.

Bob Zybach: Well when I saw you the other day we saw an eagle, and then you said you saw an eagle down here. How often have you seen those?

David Gould: Well they come in when the salmon are up here at the time. They come in here, not too many of them for the past few years.

Stop #B-35. 16:46 CCC Road to "Dean's Mountain." Photos (4): 0989; 0990; 0991; 0992.

David Gould: Part of the CCC route, here.

Bob Zybach: So this is the CCC road up to Dean's Mountain?

Jerry Phillips: It is.

David Gould: It doesn't look too much different when my grandparents brought me out here. Except it's got rock on it, it didn't have rock then.

David Gould: They're filling [forested] holes. See how much opening you get in these groves? Guess that's what those birds need to land in.

Jerry Phillips: It still amazes me, when they built their camps, they swore they were not going to lose a single day's work, ever. And they didn't. They carried that out for seven years. They never lost a day's work, and they took Sunday off. And they never killed a man. Here are all these 18, 19 year-old boys,

no hard hats, no canopies for the tractors, using explosives all the time, never killed a single kid.

Bob Zybach: Wow.

David Gould: They got a lot done, too. It's not a very big camp where we're going.

Jerry Phillips: They broke all of today's industrial accident rules.

David Gould: That's why they're still alive, I guess.

Randy Wiest: They focused on staying safe instead of being protected?

Jerry Phillips: Well I went around and interviewed three of them for my book, and I found all those three.

David Gould: Kids from the city, too, they got some of them.

Jerry Phillips: Scattered all around western Oregon, and Charleston, Brownsville, all these different places. Of course some went back home again. Some were from Missouri.

Bob Zybach: Jerry, if you had to do it over, would you still have them convert the myrtle to fir, or would you tend to just leave the myrtle as it is?

Jerry Phillips: Well, we have so little of it that that was never really a question that we dealt with. We probably would have left it, since there's so little, but the mission was, originally, to try to grow pure Douglas fir on all the land that was available. Of course, you had to try to harvest all the old-growth fir, get rid of it, 'cause it wasn't growing, and get rid of all the alder, 'cause it was worthless, and then get pure Douglas fir in all the rest. So you would eliminate maple -- of course, we had very little maple -- and myrtle, which was also very, very little. But we're living in this day and age where we're celebrating diversity of all kinds, so we probably would've been directed at an HCP [ESA Habitat Conservation Plan] to keep it.

David Gould: You all want to go down to the waterhole first?

Bob Zybach: Sure, and we got to come back this way too, don't we?

David Gould: 'Cause the waterhole's down that way and the lookout's down that way.

Jerry Phillips: Well, you want to turn right here.

Bob Zybach: We'll get it on the way back.

Jerry Phillips: You intend to go up to Deans Mountain?

David Gould: I don't know if we can get up there or not, but we can see the road from here.

Jerry Phillips: Probably a locked gate.

Amber Ross: Yeah, we've got a key, we can get up there.

Jerry Phillips: I haven't been up there for. . .well, I guess it's been forty years. And I know it's changed totally, but it's still there.

Bob Zybach: Well that's one of the most historic places on the whole forest.

Jerry Phillips: It's the most historic. I said in my book –

Amber Ross: It's clearcut now.

Bob Zybach: What's that?

Amber Ross: It's clear cut now.

Jerry Phillips: It's probably the only. . .

David Gould: We're here.

Jerry Phillips: . . . it's the only landmark most people know on the forest.

Amber Ross: Oh yeah, it's hard left.

Jerry Phillips: Right.

Randy Wiest: Right, right up there? Okay, I gotcha.

David Gould: I didn't realize the gate . . .

Randy Wiest: Can we turn around?

Amber Ross: Yeah.

Amber Ross: Not much we can do with all this fog.

David Gould: I'll tell you a funny story, I just got engaged to Donna down there when we were camped out.

Amber Ross: There's going to be a gate.

Jerry Phillips: Right there.

David Gould: Yeah, we camped out down there, and I come up here to check the lookout out, and some gal is on the lookout up there, and she talked to me a little bit, wanting me to stay the night, watch the sun come up, and I said "I don't think so."

Bob Zybach: I don't think your girlfriend would like it.

Amber Ross: Should be locked.

David Gould: I guess on that little device . . .

Bob Zybach: She must've been lonesome.

David Gould: Is that thing on?

Bob Zybach: Yup.

David Gould: Oh.

[Recorder turned off until Dean Mountain gate unlocked]

Bob Zybach: . . . story he didn't want recorded.

Amber Ross: Oh! [laughter]

Jerry Phillips: . . . you know, for the State Forester, it had become a place for relaxation and fun. So there was a knotty pine cabin. And the CC's meant to build the Benson Ridge Road clear back to where we are now, and up to here. But that never happened.

Bob Zybach: You've got that story pretty well explained in your book.

Jerry Phillips: I think so.

Bob Zybach: One thing, the museum's now got the copy of the PDF file, but your book should be rescanned, because they did it a while back when they didn't have such good software, and it's got a lot of glitches in it. Not real disconcerting, but real obvious, so it could be fixed.

Jerry Phillips: Well that's important.

Amber Ross: This is it.

Bob Zybach: Well, need to take a photo or two here.

Amber Ross: So, we can. . .

Jerry Phillips: Fog, fog, fog.

Amber Ross: On the other side of this fence, there's a foundation.

Bob Zybach: Perfect.

Randy Wiest: I'm going to get out of here somehow.

David Gould: On a good day, you can see everywhere here.

Bob Zybach: Yep.

Jerry Phillips: Our radio shop always liked this place. They liked to come out here.

David Gould: It would break down, they'd come up and work on it, huh? Have to try this cookie after all.

David Gould: I wonder why they'd log this here, so they could have better view for the tower?

Jerry Phillips: Yeah.

David Gould: They did that down at the other tower down there, too.

Jerry Phillips: Yeah, Cougar Pass. Trail Butte. All of them.

David Gould: You just don't see the big stumps up in this country.

Jerry Phillips: There were some, but not as many.

David Gould: Yeah.

Jerry Phillips: I probably already told you that. Over on Knife Ridge, that was a very good stand of high-quality fir, but when they got through Elkside's [Lumber Co.] fallers claimed more pay for counting all the snags than they did for the green timber. Because there was so many. And now they're all gone, they've all fallen down.

David Gould: Environmental people want all those snags so they can get them back into the soil I guess. Trouble is, that'll burn and put all that crap in the air up first.

Bob Zybach: Well I didn't have to take any panoramas.

Randy Wiest: You could've taken one and duplicated it.

Jerry Phillips: I might actually have the original panoramas.

Bob Zybach: What's that?

Jerry Phillips: I might actually have the original panoramas here.

Bob Zybach: I've got access to most of them, I've got 35 or 40, including Chetco Peak. I got them online, on the internet.

Jerry Phillips: Really!

Randy Wiest: Could you stick your head out there and see?

Amber Ross: Yeah, if you swing right. . .

Randy Wiest: I don't want to hit that foundation though.

Bob Zybach: It's been kind of a hobby of mine to go around to all the old lookouts and take the modern pictures and then get the older pictures. They were throwing away a bunch of them in Siuslaw National Forest when I was going to school at Oregon State and Bill Atkinson gave me permission to gather them up and put them on a camera stand and take a bunch of 35 mm slides of them.

Jerry Phillips: Good!

Bob Zybach: They should have those in the archives at OSU.

Jerry Phillips: They should be of value there.

Bob Zybach: Yeah. And then there's a group called "I Am Who" that put a bunch of the old 30's Osbourne photos online. And they were doing the same thing I was doing, except they were a lot better funded I think. They got most of them in Oregon and Washington.

David Gould: Doesn't take these small stumps long to rot, does it? They disappear pretty fast.

Jerry Phillips: This was staffed during World War II as an aircraft warning station.

Bob Zybach: Was this the only one in the Elliott? Wasn't there another one? Was it Elk Peak or something that also had a World War II [lookout station]?

Jerry Phillips: It wasn't Elk Peak, that hasn't been used since about 1920. Well, I think Blue Ridge might've been.

Bob Zybach: Ah-hah. It seems to me like there was two of them.

Jerry Phillips: Blue Ridge would be radio.

David Gould: Wasn't there a tower just for TVs or something?

Bob Zybach: Japanese. World War II. They were constant lookout for incoming aircraft.

Jerry Phillips: See, Trail Butte was built in 1940.

Bob Zybach: So that would've been for World War II. That was the other one, wasn't it? Trail Butte and Dean's Mountain. I think that's right.

Randy Wiest: It's still raining out.

Jerry Phillips: Thank you. Good thing!

Bob Zybach: You people from Bend probably don't like the rain.

Amber Ross: We both grew up in the [Willamette] Valley.

Randy Wiest: We grew up in the Valley. You get to the point doing Christmas trees, you didn't even bother wearing rain gear.

Bob Zybach: Yeah. Well that's why I couldn't stand to wear rain gear for all the years I worked in the woods, 'cause I would just sweat so much I'd be sopping wet.

Randy Wiest: Yep.

Bob Zybach: And smell bad, just . . . rain is just more comfortable.

Stop #B-36. 29:58 Umpcoos Road to Mud Flat Side Camp. Photos (7): 0993; 0994; 0995; 0996; 0997; 0998; 0999

Jerry Phillips: You want to turn left here, in order to get to Muddy Springs.

Randy Wiest: Turn left? Okay.

Bob Zybach: Now this is the same water source they used for Dean Mountain lookout?

Jerry Phillips: They, at least, part of the time . . . they also . . . there was a water drip over rock bluff on the other side, they might've used that a while, too.

Bob Zybach: It's interesting, usually in oral histories I've done in the past you go out and do all this and then do all the background, but with these guys having major books, I'm more familiar with the history of this and them before we even headed out. It's kind of a . . .

Amber Ross: Luxury.

Bob Zybach: Yeah. It's more interesting.

Jerry Phillips: So, this is all CC construction here too.

David Gould: Put this on the map here.

Jerry Phillips: We relocated only a few hundred feet. Of all their 28 miles of roads. Their location was so good.

Bob Zybach: They put all the old 3-C buildings on national registers, or most of them, I don't know about the one like at Waldport and stuff like that, but they got most of them registered anymore. A lot of their rock work, but I don't think they've included their road networks. And to me that seems like one of their major accomplishments.

Jerry Phillips: It was. Phone lines were important too, because they were all the old boundary lines, so they've been abandoned.

Bob Zybach: Yeah, but look at it, we're still driving the same road these kids built 70, 80 years ago. No -- 80 or 90 years ago. And it's still working fine.

Jerry Phillips: That's Dean's Ridge. We'll just turn to the right here.

Randy Wiest: Turn to the right? Okay.

David Gould: This is the Umpqua over here, and the Elkhorn is there.

Bob Zybach: The Umpcoos Road. We came into this further down, didn't we? It seems like we were on it before.

Amber Ross: I think so.

David Gould: The CC's did a lot of work here.

Bob Zybach: Do they still call it the Umpcoos, or does it have a different name?

Amber Ross: That's Umpcoos Ridge, it's the 7000 Road.

Jerry Phillips: Everybody who's worked here calls it that.

David Gould: I think they should call it the Brown Feather Road or something.

Bob Zybach: Are murrelets brown, or owls?

David Gould: I had a picture of them [a murrelet egg] -- it looked just like the ground. Well, they nest on the ground, too.

Bob Zybach: Yeah, mostly.

David Gould: Most started by nesting on the ground. Just happens to be that they got in the trees down here so they can stop logging, isn't it?

Bob Zybach: I don't know how many they've found in trees, it's not very many. I remember the first one was a big deal, and I haven't heard of too many since then.

Jerry Phillips: This is the Muddy Springs right here.

David Gould: That's why they're endangered, they can't find . . .

Jerry Phillips: The camp was just on the upper side of the road here. And then the spring's over here.

Bob Zybach: Is that the spring right there?

Jerry Phillips: You can't quite see it yet.

Amber Ross: You can pull up.

Randy Wiest: You want me to pull up?

Bob Zybach: Then we're on the ridgeline again.

Jerry Phillips: That's the spring right there.

Bob Zybach: Okay, oh that was. Wow.

David Gould: It's a waterhole now.

Amber Ross: It's a waterhole now.

Jerry Phillips: It's a waterhole.

Bob Zybach: I need a picture.

Amber Ross: You want to --

Bob Zybach: Yeah, please.

Jerry Phillips: It changed into a helicopter waterhole.

Bob Zybach: Was that always a big spring like that?

Jerry Phillips: Well, yeah, it's been, it had a bigger dam around the edge, but that's what it's always been.

Bob Zybach: How deep is that?

Jerry Phillips: Oh, maybe six feet.

Bob Zybach: Six feet?

David Gould: Bit tight for a helicopter. Take water out of there you think. Think they would've cut more of the trees around there. . .

Jerry Phillips: And of course you didn't have any good rocks to use, so I'm sure it was named Muddy Springs for a good reason. Everything around here, if they walked or drove around here, they were in mud.

David Gould: That stuff gets pretty slick too.

David Gould: I was going to tell you, on the other hillside across there, you used to see a albino elk over there, a cow. Only time I've ever seen an albino animal. But it was pretty much pure white. A little bit kind of cream colored. I don't know if somebody shot it or what.

Jerry Phillips: So this square mile right in front of us here is another piece of State Board of Forestry timberland. In fact, I am inclined to think it's the first piece of land they ever owned.

Bob Zybach: This piece here?

Jerry Phillips: They acquired this in 1936, from Douglas County, as a tax delinquent piece of ground. It was a very good piece, very good timberland.

David Gould: It's got good soil on it. More clay. Makes a pretty good waterhole, huh?

Bob Zybach: Well this is pretty impressive how these are all lining up like this, the ridgeline trails with the springs with the . . .

Randy Wiest: Are we turning around from here?

David Gould: Yeah.

Bob Zybach: What was that spring like before they turned it into a waterhole?

Jerry Phillips: Well it was shallower. But ever since the CC's were here, it's been a place you could get water. Just it was – they've deepened it to make a helicopter fill point.

Bob Zybach: Now all this alder above us here, was that open land?

David Gould: This has been along here.

Bob Zybach: Yeah, that's why I was taking photos. But above us it looked like young alder, and there was a patch right above the spring that didn't have any fir on it.

Jerry Phillips: I'm not sure about that. I'm not sure that picture is . . . but my picture of Muddy Springs -- in my book -- it would show that area (maybe) above the road. It shows where the buildings are.

David Gould: Lots of green out there. Thin it, log it, or whatever.

Bob Zybach: There's one person who really wants to adopt the Giesy Plan, who really wants to turn the whole forest into a commercial carbon sink.

Jerry Phillips: Yes it is, I read that.

Amber Ross: I think I read that too.

David Gould: You know, just so you pay the children for it, so much a thousand.

Jerry Phillips: Here's the thing. So many of these suggestions or proposals might bring a fair amount of money into the School Fund. They could conceivably do that. But they don't produce jobs, and we -- in the past -- we have had 400 jobs here, according to what people who are involved in listing jobs show; by jobs per million feet. So 400 jobs . . . but listen . . . carbon sinks don't produce any jobs, far as I know.

Bob Zybach: Couple of accountants.

Jerry Phillips: But, the fact is, a lot of these ivory tower figures don't care about jobs. That's not on their priority list.

Bob Zybach: Well, they care about jobs, that's why it's called tenure. That's a joke because it's funny but it's also absolutely true.

Randy Wiest: Yep.

Bob Zybach: The one guy I was talking to that wrote the editorial though, he wanted to do jobs and carbon sink and old-growth, so divide it up into another portion. I was talking to him and I said, "Just do twenty years like we're proposing and turn the whole thing and just measure the carbon that's being sequestered, if that's. . . I don't think it's going to be so important twenty years from now as it is now, but let's say it is, they would have all the information they need on intensely managed land versus set-aside land, and we'd have the 400 jobs and 400 million dollars."

Bob Zybach: So he seemed kind of reasonable that way compared to a lot of them, that don't want to do any cutting.

Jerry Phillips: Then there's that segment, that demographic that simply is irrevocably committed to harvesting no trees. They don't care who owns them, it doesn't matter who owns them. It's "don't harvest any trees!"

Bob Zybach: Even dead ones.

Jerry Phillips: Oh absolutely. Especially dead ones, they're . . .

David Gould: Depending on what they want.

Jerry Phillips: Now there's been all this "special habitat."

David Gould: The dead ones start over again, they put carbon in the ground I guess.

Bob Zybach: Well I did a paper on carbon sequestration in 1991 and then they took away my funding. That was my career with EPA, one paper.

David Gould: Said something they didn't like?

Bob Zybach: I said their models couldn't work because they were too simplistic, and I think that was the nail.

Jerry Phillips: They didn't want to hear that.

Bob Zybach: Nope. Also that you would have to plant all the farmland in North America to compensate for the automobiles people were driving. Of course, without food they wouldn't be driving cars very long. The numbers just didn't crunch very good at that point.

Jerry Phillips: This is all pure alder area, on this side over here.

Bob Zybach: Pure alder?

Jerry Phillips: Pure alder.

Bob Zybach: And it's been converted to fir?

Jerry Phillips: Right, so that was part of our mission, to get rid of all that alder, to get fir in there at a higher value.

Jerry Phillips: Now, I have to confess, at that same time, we're talking about -- of course -- all of the land. There's no such things as riparian zones, or bird set-asides; it was all of the land that you used. So today, what I've heard, is some people think that maybe 50% of the forest is manageable. Maybe half the acreage. But you know, seriously, how that works out. Again, time was when you had an easy conversion factor: for every thousand acres you can have an allowable annual cut of a million feet -- for every thousand acres. And the county, the foresters who work for the county, have six thousand acres of timberland, and they have an annual cut of six million feet. Weyerhaeuser had a hundred and thirty thousand acres and the annual allowable cut when I came to work here was a hundred, a hundred and thirty million. A year.

Jerry Phillips: A million foot in allowable cut, for a thousand acres, is pretty close to it. So they know here's the Elliott. If it's half manageable, at forty thousand acres, and that converts to forty million feet. So that whole ratio is pretty close.

Bob Zybach: A million feet for each thousand acres. That'd be a thousand feet per acre per year, so that'd be . . .

David Gould: Depends on how much an acre is in feet. We got 4 million feet off of one 40 [acres] once, of Elliott-type timber we cut on Kentuck Inlet.

Bob Zybach: Well, it depends. What you got, fifty thousand feet on some of these acres out here, sixty thousand?

David Gould: Something like that, but it would be something to get four million feet off of forty acres, that would be pretty good. I reckon the timbers are small.

Bob Zybach: Well, it'd be four . . . how many feet was it growing?

David Gould: They figured they got four million feet off of forty acres down here, that's what they said.

Bob Zybach: So, that'd be four thousand, thousand. So . . . I used to be good at math in my head.

David Gould: Probably when you weren't bumping around so much. Shaking it up a little bit.

Bob Zybach: Well yeah, I think it's a sleep factor too. And an age.

Amber Ross: What do you want to do?

Bob Zybach: Just a second, let me . . . what'd you say, they got forty million feet off of forty --

David Gould: No, four million feet off of forty acres.

Bob Zybach: Okay, so that'd be, a hundred thousand feet per acre wouldn't it, or would it be, let's see. . .that would be every ten acres then, would be, that'd be right. They got four million feet, so that'd be a hundred thousand feet to the acre. So that would be old-growth.

Amber Ross: Yep.

Jerry Phillips: That what is growing on that patch of ground that we went to visit, at that old-growth fifty acres there.

Bob Zybach: That's about --

Jerry Phillips: That's what's growing there, is a hundred thousand acres. That's what our cruise was.

Bob Zybach: So it's a pretty good estimate on the second growth here, that fifty million, or fifty thousand board feet an acre, would be a pretty reasonable number.

Jerry Phillips: It'd be reasonable!

David Gould: A good stand of timber anyways.

David Gould: We logged that when I was in high school.

Bob Zybach: That would be old-growth.

David Gould: No, it would be called old-growth now, but it wasn't then. "Third-growth," we called it.

Jerry Phillips: We're the only county in the state that refers to third-growth. It's a Coos County term.

Bob Zybach: I've never heard it anywhere else. You know we visited most of the places I had on the list, it --

Tape 7-C End. 47:20

Tape 8-A. Interview with Jerry Phillips and David Gould by Bob Zybach, with Amber Ross and Randy Wiest while touring the Elliott State Forest on November 8, 2017.

Part 7. Strawberry Creek, Big Creek Riparian Zone & Lakeside (39:31)

David Gould: You're right, because if it rains on you, you're going to get wet anyway.

Bob Zybach: Yep, yep.

David Gould: If it would get in my way, I would just rip it.

Bob Zybach: Yep. That's exactly how I used to work.

David Gould: Tie it on and go after it.

Bob Zybach: Yep.

David Gould: And if the lens of your glasses got wet, you couldn't see.

Bob Zybach: Yep.

Amber Ross: We're not far from our turn, Randy.

Randy Wiest: Okay. Where am I going?

Amber Ross: You're going to go to the right.

Jerry Phillips: To the right, okay.

Amber Ross: We'll be heading out west [Benson Ridge].

Randy Wiest: Okay.

Stop #B-33. 0:38 Divide Spring (2) to Strawberry Creek Questions. No photos.

Bob Zybach: I've got a couple questions here. Strawberry Creek, is that wild strawberries?

Jerry Phillips: Yeah, they are.

Bob Zybach: So, that was known because it had a lot of wild strawberries along it?

Jerry Phillips: I assume so, we just adopted the old names we could find, that were legitimate older names.

Bob Zybach: Uh-huh (affirmative).

David Gould: Strawberry Basin, eh?

Jerry Phillips: So we called that Strawberry Basin.

David Gould: Because of the strawberries.

Amber Ross: This is it.

Jerry Phillips: As a timber sale area.

Randy Wiest: We good?

Amber Ross: We're good.

Bob Zybach: Okay. Did they have like lots of wild strawberries, or were they pretty well gone by the time?

David Gould: I don't know to tell you the truth. Probably there's strawberries on the Ranch, but . . .

Bob Zybach: That's why I'm curious if they're native. They would have had to gone back to Indian times. And if they're domestic, then of course it'd be --

David Gould: There must have been strawberries in another part of the state so I'm assuming.

Jerry Phillips: We assumed they were all native. It was kind of a high perch, like a bench almost.

Bob Zybach: Oh, okay.

Jerry Phillips: And it was mostly very young timber.

Bob Zybach: Yep.

Jerry Phillips: We just assumed it all had been grass and wild strawberries.

Bob Zybach: Uh-huh (affirmative).

David Gould: They ran cattle up there, I know that.

Bob Zybach: Wow. It seems to me like there's more occupation on the Elliott -- Indian occupation -- than is typically recognized. I mean strawberry patches, flag patches, myrtlewood groves, springs, ridgeline trails that meet known settlements, Indian settlements.

David Gould: They used to live off on the bay and then came in back here for berries and stuff.

Bob Zybach: Well, and on the bay and on the lake and on the river.

Jerry Phillips: Yes, it was easy living on the bay, and the ocean, and the major streams. They didn't have to go back in the --

Bob Zybach: Well they didn't have to, but the kids will always want to go back and spend the weekend. They want to go over the next ridge and check out the girls, they want to trade clams for huckleberries, they've got all kinds of reasons to head out. And they've got relatives in the next village over the hill, Loon Lake to Allegany, that's not a long trip.

Jerry Phillips: And they have time on their hands.

Bob Zybach: Oh yeah. All day and all month and all year.

David Gould: I like folks to get on out and go home now . . . Sparking Trail, speaking of women.

Bob Zybach: Yep. Well that's a perfect example, but the Goulds, I mean the guy is going 20 miles and so you know darn well that they knew . . . and all these routes have got plenty of camping sites on them. They've got plenty of food plants on them. Known trail systems on them.

David Gould: Yeah that [Indian artifacts] was too, talking about back at the Ranch, but not very many.

Bob Zybach: Did they save any of those artifacts?

David Gould: I don't think so, no. Hadn't been told but I didn't ask about it.

Bob Zybach: Well, I like to think the artifacts might be in the strawberry patches and flag patches and myrtle groves.

David Gould: I have to get my shovel out [laughter].

Bob Zybach: Well, with all the erosion around here, I'd think you'd have to dig pretty deep for a lot of them.

Amber Ross: I think this road is going to be rough the whole way.

Randy Wiest: Okay.

Amber Ross: We've been hearing some complaints about it.

David Gould: I don't get down this way too much, but I'd take a contract to fix it.

Bob Zybach: Jerry or David, do either one of you know how Devil's Graveyard got its name?

Jerry Phillips: I don't.

Bob Zybach: It's up out of Scottsburg towards Wells Creek.

Jerry Phillips: Have no idea.

Bob Zybach: Wow. I can't find anybody that does. You know, the Devil's Graveyard, it's got a pioneer graveyard, but like Simpson family or something.

David Gould: There's McClay's living in the Elkton's cemetery. My great-great grandpa McClay is in it, when he died. And then there are a couple others, David McClay would have their names. They didn't leave a trace behind.

Bob Zybach: Hah.

David Gould: Some gal that was buried, married to an Uptown. Upton. She was shot by her husband and then buried there and the next several odd years later they came and dug her up, buried her here at Elkton.

Bob Zybach: Wow.

David Gould: And then her dad, it was the same thing. He was buried at Riverside and they took him out there too. Same trip.

Bob Zybach: Huh. Her husband shot her to death, and they buried her? And then they --

David Gould: Well, yes. Buried both of them. They tried to get her husband. But they, never did. Said it was an accident.

Bob Zybach: Jerry, on the Millicoma tree farm, Weyerhaeuser, when they were logging that off, didn't you say you were keeping the annual records or submitting them because of your position with the state?

Jerry Phillips: Yeah, I was required to report on volume removals for every logging permit. To harvest timber you had to apply for a logging permit. Of course, they were free. And then at the end of the year -- then I had to report what area they had logged and whether they burned their slash or not, because it still was a law of the books that required burning the slash; and the volume that they reported as having harvested. And Weyerhaeuser kept real good records, and they were harvesting 130 million a year.

Bob Zybach: And they started in something like around 1948 or '49, didn't they?

Jerry Phillips: About, about '50.

David Gould: Yeah, about '50,

Bob Zybach: About '50. And then, when did they finish working their way all the way through the tree farm?

Jerry Phillips: About '90.

Bob Zybach: '90? So 40 years. And they were doing 130 million acres a year – or, I mean, a 130 million feet.

Jerry Phillips: Well that went on from, see I started saving records on that in '53, and for the next 10 years they were doing normal harvesting. Then they got hit by the Columbus Day windstorm. We lost a 100 million on the ground. And we had to cut 200 million of green to get that 100 million off the ground. So we cut 300 million off the Elliott in like five years.

Bob Zybach: Yeah.

Jerry Phillips: But Weyerhaeuser had, of course, a large volume also -- more volume of salvage than their mill could handle. So that's when they started exporting. Yeah, they exported foreign, and then they also built a plywood mill to handle more of that volume. So I never heard what they cranked their volume up to. 130 . . . if it went to 150, I never heard a figure.

Bob Zybach: But you think basically they averaged about 130 million for the 40 years?

Jerry Phillips: Well, it was probably more than that, because after about 12 years they raised it. And I never heard what they raised it to.

Bob Zybach: I've tried to talk to a few Weyerhaeuser guys and they're kind of clueless, but I think in Art Smyth's book [*Millicoma: Biography of a Pacific Northwestern Forest*, 2000] there's probably that information.

David Gould: If you're buried, it should be on a flat drainage.

Stop #B-37. 9:30 Big Creek Riparian Zone & Judge Shopping

Jerry Phillips: It was right down at the bottom of this. So for our first planned riparian zone, it is an alder part of the [forest planning] matrix.

Bob Zybach: So this is Big Creek below us?

Jerry Phillips: Mm-hmm. It is.

Bob Zybach: And this is the first planned riparian area?

Jerry Phillips: Right. We logged up both sides of the creek, and left this strip at the bottom of maybe 25 fir trees, and a bunch of alder. That's what the State Land Board didn't like.

Jerry Phillips: "Those are our trees, who's going to pay us for them?"

Amber Ross: What year was that?

Jerry Phillips: '68.

Bob Zybach: What's your feeling, do you think that the Fish and Wildlife should pay for those leave trees?

Jerry Phillips: (laughter)

Bob Zybach: That sounds kind of like a yes.

Jerry Phillips: Well . . .

David Gould: Somebody should do it.

Jerry Phillips: They got a point. You know? It's part of the direct evaluation of the whole state tree farm here. And somebody had, somebody was us, had deprived them of that income.

Jerry Phillips: It was a very small amount, that's true. It was one creek. It was one part of one creek.

Bob Zybach: Look at the precedent it set.

Jerry Phillips: And they always emphasized, "This is not a recreational forest. This is for growing Douglas fir timber, the most you can get."

David Gould: It's Common School Fund.

Jerry Phillips: "So don't ever bring a garbage can out here. No picnic table out here. So don't say you're welcoming people to camp out here. Build a road system with just narrow logging roads, very few turnouts; it's a working forest." That's how we . . . that's how we managed it.

Bob Zybach: Well it seems like a working forest these days involves more than just harvesting trees -- like you've got commercial access, you have hunting permits, you could have fishing permits, camping permits.

Jerry Phillips: Boy, that is right. I remember one year I was invited to . . .

Bob Zybach: Myrtle.

Jerry Phillips: . . . represent this part of the state in the Tree Farmer of the Year competition.

Bob Zybach: Yeah.

Randy Wiest: Should I go back to it?

Jerry Phillips: Because what you had . . . then you had like six or seven tree farmers who had applied for that honor, Tree Farmer of the Year. So you were to go and visit those [tree farms], take pictures, and then appear at this meeting in Salem to see who could vote for the winner. So I thought I had a . . . you know, I'm a great commodity-oriented forester.

Bob Zybach: Yeah.

Jerry Phillips: So I was pleased to report that one of my contestants had a really good looking tree farm. It was all . . . it all looked very good. It was intensely managed. Good access to reforestation. Took pictures. Got to Salem, and the guy who was the . . . doing what I was doing, for northwest Oregon, he just simply announced to the others that he had a real good candidate, so let's all vote for him.

Bob Zybach: Wow.

Jerry Phillips: I thought, "Hey! What happened to the rules, here?" Clearly these rules, they weren't abolished. But then everybody kept me interested. And well in reality, what you're doing here is judging the entire piece of ground as if it was our own, and to see if they host Boy Scout tours and annual fishing contests, and have 4-H activities out there, all that. Which was not in the rules, but that's what they were voting on.

Jerry Phillips: And that is how [Wayne] Kreiger got elected for one of those the very following year, when I was replaced. A great . . . ceremoniously replaced. And then Kreiger was nominated from Curry county, and he won. Because he was doing all these politically wonderful things. So my eyes are open. Yes, it was Tree Farmer of the Year, but it was . . . a very multitasking situation. Because it focused on public relations more than anything else.

Bob Zybach: Uh-huh (affirmative).

Jerry Phillips: Okay. I learned.

Bob Zybach: Oh, you knew Rex Wakefield.

Jerry Phillips: I did.

Bob Zybach: He got Tree Farmer of the Year out of Eddyville, but his farm was entirely managed for forestry. He had experimental clear-cuts, real small ones, that followed the ridgelines; then him and his wife Mable did most of the planting out there. So I think that was a lot of it, and then he was politically set from his positions with the Siuslaw on that.

Jerry Phillips: That's right.

Bob Zybach: So he didn't have to do all the tours and everything.

Jerry Phillips: He had gotten the word earlier.

Bob Zybach: Yeah.

David Gould: There's not a lot of trees out here. It's what people want, I guess.

Bob Zybach: You know I think that's a curious thing, David. I don't know if that's what people want or not. I think people are just ignorant about what's out here, and what should be out here, and why, and few people have gotten a lot of attention, and a few people made a lot of money by testing all this stuff. And I think it's going to . . . hopefully it's been the tail wagging the dog.

David Gould: Alders, alders, alder.

Bob Zybach: Randy, you never talked to Amber. One thing I was talking about with these guys, once this is done and we get it transcribed, you'll have every opportunity to look through it and if there's something in there, like when I'm putting my opinions in there I'll probably just take them out. Because we're not here for that. Be a chance to go through it, and correct anything, and also have a stab at editing it so it doesn't go out everywhere.

Bob Zybach: I've done about 30 or 40 of these or so, and I've only had one person ever ask to have anything removed. And he was a non-stop talker, and he had these really long stories. And the only thing he wanted me to remove was the part where he said his wife ate too much sugar. That's been it.

Jerry Phillips: That's a pretty good record!

David Gould: Is that a true story?

Bob Zybach: It's a true story.

Randy Wiest: Sorry about that one [hit a big pothole]. I knocked some fish out of that hole, I saw it.

Bob Zybach: Yeah? Well that's what my crews did a lot of years was convert from alder and bigleaf maple to Doug fir usually logged over units that they didn't reforest right. And so we did a lot of conversion work.

David Gould: There's a lot of cost in that.

Bob Zybach: We were lucky though, we had an alder mill in Toledo that did pulp and paper products. So there was a market for it.

Jerry Phillips: This is what a lot of the old Tenmile Lake's watershed looked like originally. And we hammered it pretty hard . . . and this is what's left.

Bob Zybach: Yeah?

Jerry Phillips: You know it's kind of a, kind of a low-stocked stand. With quite a bit of hardwood in it.

Bob Zybach: Yeah . . . Those ones back there looked like old-growth myrtle, like they'd been there for a while.

Jerry Phillips: Oh I'm sure they have.

Bob Zybach: Right along the ridgeline, boy that's . . . I wasn't expecting that.

David Gould: This might belong to Lone Rock [Timber Co.]. It might be on their land.

Bob Zybach: What's that?

David Gould: This might be Lone Rock, where this is happening.

Amber Ross: We're still on state land, but we're pretty close to the edge.

David Gould: Looks like there is something going on with it.

Jerry Phillips: No, this is Roseburg Lumber Company.

Amber Ross: Oh, this is the piece that sold?

Jerry Phillips: Yeah.

Amber Ross: Got it.

Bob Zybach: What'd you think about that sale, Jerry? Do you think that that was a kind of expendable piece of ground?

Jerry Phillips: No. I didn't. It was a trial by the Land Board to do something.

Amber Ross: Yep, this is it.

Jerry Phillips: They knew they wouldn't please everybody. They might please some. That's what they were doing. They were trying to . . . see they were generating some revenue. I know that was their legal mandate, because they were trying to meet that demand.

Jerry Phillips: But even then, that sale, it angered a lot of the emotionally-charged enviros. So they didn't want any more of that. So now they're . . . kind of caught in a bind. They don't really know what is the best political move to make. I sympathize with them.

Jerry Phillips: I didn't ever . . . I still don't . . . live for thankyou's. But I do appreciate it when a thankyou comes along the road. One of mine is a nice bronze plaque the State Land Board gave to me, thanking me for 38 years of service to the State Land Board for managing this forest. And doing a good job with it, bringing in hundreds of millions of dollars. And I appreciate they took the effort to do that.

David Gould: He put it all together so he'd have more forest, too.

David Gould: This here's a lot of pride. I think they put concrete in the gate posts now.

Jerry Phillips: I sympathize with them.

Bob Zybach: You said it made the enviros angry to sell those pieces, how about you? You're on the other side of the --

Jerry Phillips: Well, the same way. To me any action that has diminished the value of this forest for the benefit of the people of Oregon is a downer. So I've decided to control my emotions, not overreact, but no I haven't liked what's happened for the last few years. To have attempted . . . to kind of well-manage a good working forest, and things happen to diminish that, it's an unhappy feeling. By that time my wife had died, so I couldn't even get any sympathy there.

David Gould: I'm about to cancel the help. I know that they see the birds there. Feed the birds to the cats.

Amber Ross: Do you know the total amount of income the forest produced in your career?

Jerry Phillips: You know, I really don't. I've guessed it might be 200 million. I really don't know that.

Bob Zybach: It seems like the two major accomplishments, in addition to that income for the schools, are actually putting the forest together and consolidating it and making most of it productive. Or at least productive from an income standpoint.

Jerry Phillips: This is one of the truly ironic parts of that. I did have a lot of satisfaction of doing that, moving all these scattered parcels of Common School lands into this forest by doing exchanges; about three dozen exchanges. But I have to admit, looking back at it, that I've checked the map for all those places, those examples. I have to admit that most of those have turned into bird habitats.

Amber Ross: The scattered tracts?

Jerry Phillips: Yeah. Well, no it was what we acquired in replacement for the scattered tracts.

Bob Zybach: You think it's going to be bird habitat ten years from now?

Jerry Phillips: That is just so hard to project.

David Gould: There's a projection already of what it's going to be. See that?

Jerry Phillips: The vast majority of Oregonians who have taken a poll indicate that they're okay with forest harvesting. But that's where it stops right there. And if you get down to specifics, oh well, they're not so sure about that. No, no, that's an exception. So being in Oregon, they . . . in generalities are okay with a working forest. As long as you talk in generalities. But I believe -- and this is my own position here -- I believe that the main objection that the vast majority of environmentalists have -- the vast majority -- is aesthetics. It's not dollars, it's not numbers, it's not jobs, it is aesthetics.

Bob Zybach: I'd agree with that.

Jerry Phillips: And you can't fight that. So there's no laws that deal with aesthetics, so all the folks have to clutch at any other place where there are laws as a rationale for protesting things.

Bob Zybach: Seven or eight years ago they had the 2011 plan; 20 years before that they had the 1994 plan, or 15 years before. And both of those never got implemented.

Jerry Phillips: That's right.

Bob Zybach: And so that's what I'm wondering. Here we've got just recently -- actually since 2009 or 2010 -- the Elliott's been shut down, basically. Such a small group of people. Not the people of Oregon or the school kids or anybody, just a small group of people.

Jerry Phillips: Including the attorney -- including the Attorney General of Oregon.

Bob Zybach: Yeah, but still a small group, that's one person -- five lawyers, three environmental organizations, they've done it all. And yet the plans that other people set have not been kept. That's why I'm curious whether the enviro plans are going to be true ten years from now. It all seems pretty ephemeral, like people are changing their positions, and they're not basing them on facts. It's like you say, it's emotions. And it's just a small group of people with emotions.

Jerry Phillips: It is. Yes, it is. But they have attorneys, and they fight . . . you know what, I didn't realize this. I thought it was a joke when I first heard it, but I realize now it's not a joke. If you have a lawsuit --

Bob Zybach: Taxpayers are paying them.

Jerry Phillips: You tend to read through this lawsuit. You go judge shopping! I had never realized that that is a fact. They know what the philosophy is of all the judges, so you go judge shopping to find the one that will be most likely to support you. "No," I'm shrugging, "it can't be right." Yeah, it is right.

Bob Zybach: It's the same attorneys and the same judges that have made the same decisions in the last ten years.

Jerry Phillips: So when the Attorney General went . . . and we were sued with early lawsuits, the Attorney General said, well she wasn't going to defend that lawsuit, she couldn't see how it could be defended. So she wasn't going to defend it. Well, now see we don't know if she's a member of the Sierra Club or what her position is, and she should be doing judgments for the people of Oregon. I'm sure she would say well that's what she's doing. Just exactly what she's doing. She believes that majority people of Oregon would want that lawsuit to succeed. So go fight it.

Bob Zybach: Huh.

Jerry Phillips: The Governor has no background in this sort of thing at all.

Bob Zybach: Well her husband was a forester, sort of.

Jerry Phillips: Well, yeah.

Bob Zybach: But it's hard to tell what he did. I think he worked out of Portland and retired when she got elected.

Jerry Phillips: Well I want to think, or at least I try anyway, to adopt a position in my own mind that is fairly moderate. You know, I know, I realize that I'm a commodity-oriented forester. I'm a Republican, so I'm conservative, and I believe in work and jobs, and so on. I believe in those things. But, I also realize that our culture -- our culture -- has changed a lot in the last 30 or 40 years. And it's not the world I grew up in, but it is how it is today.

Jerry Phillips: I have 10 grandkids who are -- well they're in their 20's and 30's -- and I will never, I think, ever find out, because I'll never know, but my guess is that they are way more liberal than I am. Five young women and five young men. But I would just believe that they probably are. They've gone to college at a different time than I did. And been part of our culture in this day and age. My daughter and oldest son grew up, my number two son also grew up, in Vietnam War times. And participated in protest marches, and so on. So I'm sure they're more liberal than I am. So I try hard to keep adjusting my own position on things. Otherwise, you're written off as being a hopeless case.

Bob Zybach: Yep.

Jerry Phillips: And I don't want to be that.

Lakeside. 32:27 Lakeside CCC Bridge & Airport

Bob Zybach: That wasn't Tenmile Creek, was it?

David Gould: Yeah.

Jerry Phillips: It is.

Bob Zybach: Okay.

Jerry Phillips: That's the canal that hooks the two lakes together.

Bob Zybach: I think they're supposed to have one of the best coho runs in the world, or used to have. And the Eel Creek, they'd have big eel runs, and Indians had

camping sites along them. Like a big huge deal, when they [used to fish for them].

Jerry Phillips: I think that the --

Bob Zybach: . . . changed the lakes, that's why --

Jerry Phillips: . . . the original bridge back there was built by the CC's. They built the airport here, and then built that bridge. And in their monthly periodical newsletter they printed -- every camp did that -- they put a picture of that bridge in and they titled it: "The bridge that we built." They were very prideful of it.

Bob Zybach: Oh, wow.

Jerry Phillips: When we started logging, we knew the CC bridge would not carry our log trucks off the state forest. So we got here with the county and we rebuilt the bridge, the one that we just drove over.

Amber Ross: I think you want to go right.

Randy Wiest: Go right here?

Bob Zybach: There's a store right over . . .

Jerry Phillips: Yeah, this is a McKay's.

Randy Wiest: Okay. I've been here twice.

Amber Ross: We need a rest stop?

Randy Wiest: Do we need a rest stop?

Amber Ross: I'm good.

Jerry Phillips: I'm good.

David Gould: I think I can make it.

Bob Zybach: No.

Bob Zybach: Got the [North Bend] library coming up pretty quick. I lived here [Lakeside] for two months and conceived my oldest kid here.

Jerry Phillips: Okay!

Bob Zybach: 47 or 48 years ago. Then we moved to Empire.

Jerry Phillips: Got some shares of stock there.

Randy Wiest: Left here?

Jerry Phillips: Yep.

David Gould: Turn left, yeah.

Randy Wiest: Okay.

Bob Zybach: We did all the things on my list today [see Appendix].

Amber Ross: Alright!

Jerry Phillips: This is the CC's airport.

Randy Wiest: So it is, look at that.

David Gould: Don't see many gophers out there.

Jerry Phillips: I never knew why they didn't put a spike camp here in Lakeside. They did all their operating here out of Reedsport.

Bob Zybach: They didn't even have a spike camp here?

Jerry Phillips: No.

Jerry Phillips: That's back before the road we're on was a very good road, either.

Bob Zybach: What's the name of that reforestation expert again?

Jerry Phillips: Roger Johnson.

Bob Zybach: Roger Johnson, I called up his boss over the weekend and told him what we were up to and wanted to take a third trip and discuss specifically reforestation with him, but I haven't heard back.

Jerry Phillips: Okay.

Bob Zybach: So the boss of that outfit lives just a few miles from me, he lives in Creswell. So I'm guessing he's not commuting.

Jerry Phillips: Well I see Roger every Sunday at church, so I know he's around.

Bob Zybach: Oh, so you go to church with him?

Jerry Phillips: Yep.

Bob Zybach: Oh, wow. I was hoping to maybe be able to set up a time to go out again, but it sounds to me like if you're a pretty good contact with him, or if you could give me his phone number or something, that might be the quicker way to set things up. Is he there in Coos Bay?

Jerry Phillips: Hauser.

Bob Zybach: Hauser, okay.

David Gould: He is right down the way and maybe we could stop. This is supposed to be a smooth road and maybe it's the truck that's so rough.

Randy Wiest: All the potholes are filled in on this road.

Jerry Phillips: They are.

David Gould: They keep putting more culverts in.

Jerry Phillips: Be it federal highway, why they pour your money into it. And I want them to.

David Gould: There's a lot of accidents up through here.

Bob Zybach: There are?

David Gould: Yeah. Somebody runs into somebody.

Bob Zybach: I always worry a lot, worry a little bit about the Umpqua Highway. Rocks, and falling trees, and narrow roads, and drivers that don't know how to drive very well. Always afraid something's going to get whacked.

David Gould: Trees through here used to have limbs clear to the ground. Now they're cleaned off.

Bob Zybach: So those self-shaded. Nobody pruned them.

David Gould: Yeah, but now we have them filled in. Some of them [limbs] fell off.

Bob Zybach: Wow.

Randy Wiest: Park or stay on the road?

Bob Zybach: Well coastal Douglas fir are known to hang onto their limbs longer than fir in the Cascades for some reason. I don't know what that reason is.

David Gould: Well, they've got more sap within them.

Bob Zybach: Yeah, there's something --

David Gould: Not anymore, you know sap . . . they used to bore holes in the trees and insert a wood peg with a spout. Then they would take it to town and sell it for turpentine. Now it's a lost art.

Bob Zybach: There's a lot of lost arts. Some of them for good reason.

Randy Wiest: It's raining!

Amber Ross: Like saying it rains here!

Bob Zybach: It's fortunate that we've been inside the truck almost every time this has happened.

Amber Ross: Yeah.

David Gould: I was starting to get --

[Tape stops recording at 39:31]

Tape 8-A End. 47:42

APPENDIX

Oral history interview with Jerry Phillips and David Gould by Bob Zybach, with Amber Ross and Randy Wiest while touring the Elliott State Forest on November 8, 2017.

This is the four-page hand-out of questions and maps used as an outline for that day's tour route and discussions.

Jerry Phillips' Elliott State Forest Oral History

Elliott Tour #2: November 8, 2017

Crew: Jerry Phillips, David Gould, Bob Zybach, Amber Ross, Randy Wiest

Discussion Focus: 1) late 19th century forest history and cultural artifacts;
2) consideration of snag sizes and distribution to interpret pre-1868 Fire and pre-1840 Fire old-growth/second-growth species, diameters, and ages;
3) history of landslides/spawning gravel in Elliott streams.

Key Stops: 1) apple trees, daffodils, myrtle groves, waterfalls, landslides, springs;
2) Gould Lake, Elkhorn Ranch, Stull Sawmill, Trail Butte flags, Deans Mt. L.O., "old maid's cabin," Fern cabin, Red Hat Camp, 3 progeny test sites;
3) Mud Flat spike camp water source, Deans Mt. water source, Elkhorn Ranch water source, Aunt Oelo's water source, Dry Lake spring

Questions: How did Strawberry Creek get its name? Devil's Graveyard (above Scottsburg)? Ash Valley (tree or sediment)? Boomers vs. bobcats/people? Weyerhaeuser Millicoma annual harvest records? Indian Allotments history/maps? Snag and old-growth density = invasion or attrition?

1905 Glae Gould Map (p. 385)

1923 Vegetation Type Map (p. 4)

1955 Old-Growth Map (p. 182)

1956-1958 Veg Type Maps (p. 171)

1971 Soil Map (p. 306)

1973 Ortho Maps (p. 313)

1934 aerial photos (65 total; annotated copies, too, if separate; p. 50)

1949, 1952, and 1953 aerial photos (p. 163)

1962-1963 aerial photos (pp. 247, 262, 267)

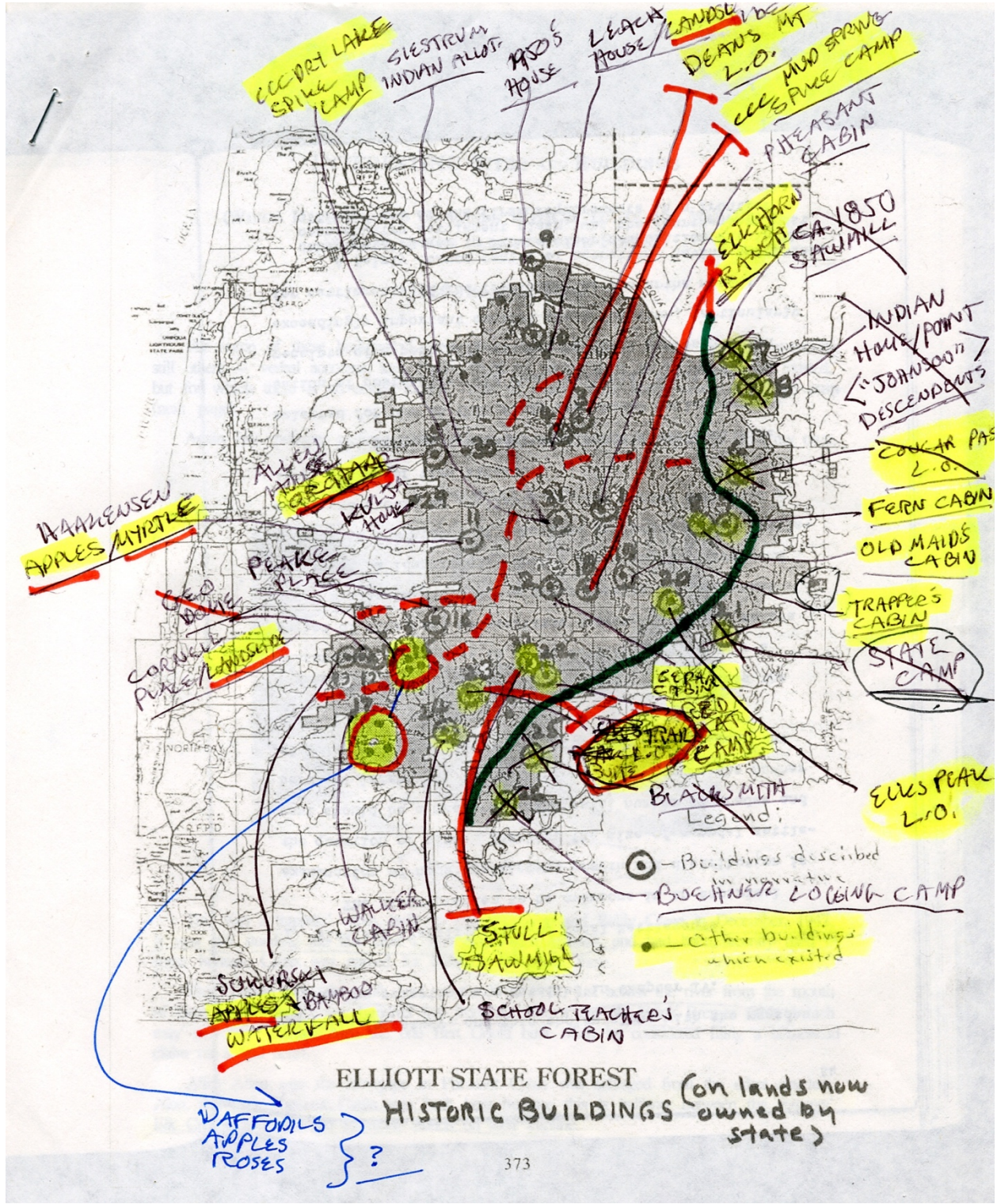
1972 aerial photos (p. 313)

1933-1941 Forest Boundary Survey (9 field notebooks, Jerry has 2; p. 39)

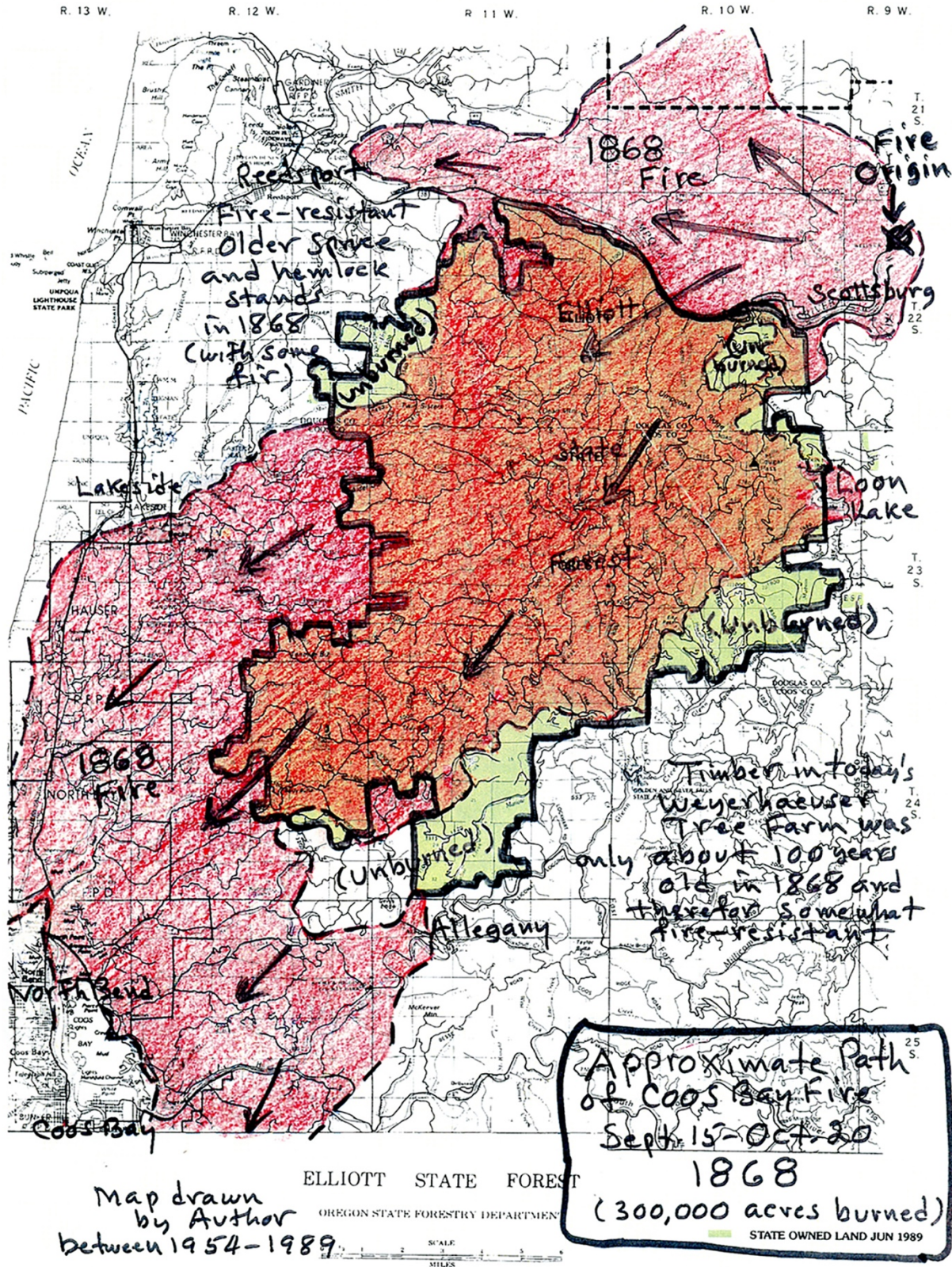
1982-1983 Stand Inventory

1961-1983, 1996 landslide photos (pp. 271, 329)

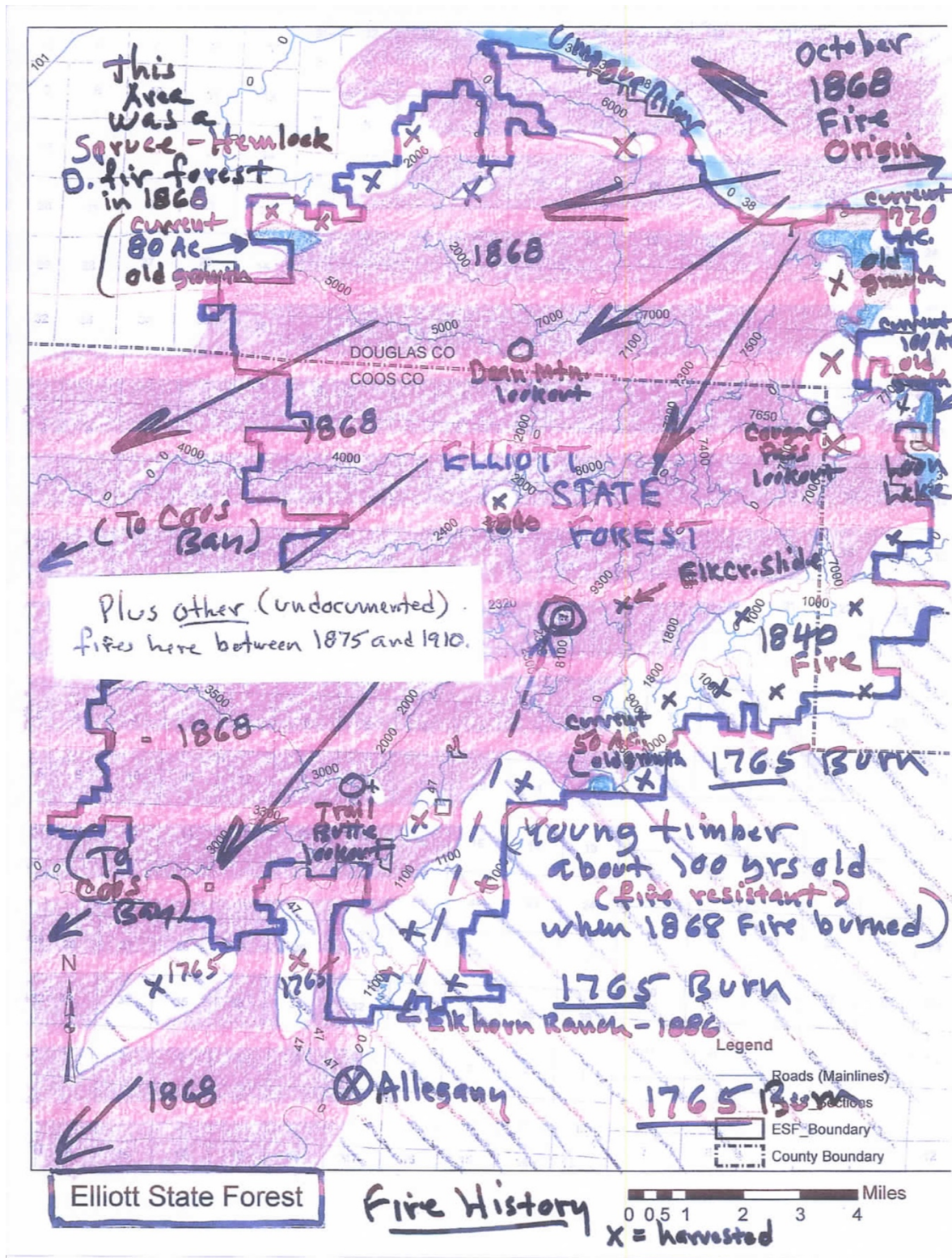
1968-???? Hunt's Annual "Coos Forest Management Unit" Reports (p. 285)



Annotated Elliott Forest 2017 oral history tour map (Phillips 1996: 113)



1868 Coos Fire Map (Phillips 1996: 7)



Elliott State Forest Fire History Map (Gould 2013: 11)